

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 9th August 1913.

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		(d) — Education—	
The Amir's blind love for the English	775	"The Moslem University"	783
The present state of Turkey	ib.	Primary Education and Musalmans	ib.
The moral of the Balkan War	ib.	Need of more High Schools in Bengal...	784
"The course of the war"	ib.	Scholarships of students of Guru-training schools	ib.
England and Turkey	ib.	The Comilla Victoria College	ib.
<i>Ibid</i>	ib.	"A strange circular"	ib.
The Balkan War and England	776	The Madaripur School affair	ib.
"Turkey's friends"	777	Discussion of politics by Mr. Lyon at a school	785
British policy	ib.	High education and politics	ib.
European policy	778	The new educational policy	ib.
Turkey's firmness	ib.	Control of high schools	786
The future of Albania	ib.	<i>Ibid</i>	ib.
War in the Balkans and the opportunity for		<i>Ibid</i>	ib.
Persia	779	<i>Ibid</i>	787
Britain and Persia	ib.	<i>Ibid</i>	ib.
"The future of Persia"	ib.	The Town Hall meeting against the Government	
		educational policy	ib.
		The discontinuation of Bengali as the medium of	
		instruction in medical schools	ib.
		Medical education in Bengal	788
		Registration of medical practitioners	ib.
		<i>Ibid</i>	ib.
		Mr. Hornell's appointment	ib.
		<i>Ibid</i>	ib.
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.		(e) — Local Self-Government and Municipal Adminis-	
		tration—	
(a) — Police—		The Imperial grant for water-supply in Bengal	789
Lord Carmichael's Dacca Durbar speech—the		Dangers of using unfiltered water	ib.
relation between the police and the public	ib.	Reconstitution of the Calcutta Municipality	ib.
Contraband cocaine	ib.	<i>Ibid</i>	ib.
The Barrackpore shooting range	ib.	Special representation for Musalmans in Calcutta	ib.
Alleged case of flaying kine alive	780		
"Trouble over a masjid"	ib.	(f) — Questions affecting the land—	
<i>Ibid</i>	ib.	Nil.	
<i>Ibid</i>	ib.		
<i>Ibid</i>	781	(g) — Railways and Communications, including Canals	
<i>Ibid</i>	ib.	and Irrigation—	
<i>Ibid</i>	ib.	An effort to boycott the Assam-Bengal Railway	ib.
Cawnpore Mosque's wail of woe to Britannia	ib.	A railway complaint	790
		A railway from Bhairab Bazar to Netrokona	ib.
(b) — Working of the Courts—		The Sonarpur station assault case	ib.
Boys under 16 years of age sent to the common		The Jessore Drainage Division	ib.
jail in Bihar and Orissa	782	Floods in Contai	ib.
The Civil Court Building at Diamond Harbour	ib.		
Service of summonses and subpoenas in criminal			
cases	ib.		
The Mainpuri sati case	ib.		
The Khulna Police Torture Case	783		
The Moslem Hitaishi's allegations against a Deputy			
Magistrate	ib.		
(c) — Jails—			
The Barisal conspiracy case—prisoners in jail	ib.		

(h)—General—

	PAGE.
New Delhi and the waste of public money	791
Indians appointed as Engineers from England	ib.
The Annual Report of the Sanitary Department	ib.
The partition of Midnapore	ib.
<i>Ibid</i>	794
Head-quarters of the new district in Mymensingh	ib.
The Indian Immigration Act in South Africa	ib.
Indian coolies in the Malay States	795
Epidemics and famines in Bengal	ib.
Presents to officials	ib.
The Diamond Harbour milkman's case	ib.
Vernacular papers and Government	796

III.—LEGISLATION.

Nil.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

Nil.

PAGE.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Nil.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The <i>Punyaka</i> in the past and in the present	798
Inter-marriage and nation-building	ib.
Lord Morley thanked	ib.
"The predicament of the country"	ib.
The <i>Swadeshi</i> agitation	798
<i>Swadeshi</i> volunteers	ib.

URIYA PAPERS.

Nil.

PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

LIST OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

(Corrected up to the 1st July 1913.)

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	BENGALI.				
1	"Bangaratna" ...	Krishnagar ...	Weekly ...	Kanal Lal Das, Hindu, Karmokar; age 28 years ...	1,500
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 56 years; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahmin, age 45 years; Satyendra Kumar Basu.	15,000
3	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	Do. ...	Rama Nath Mukherji, V.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 52 years; Viswanath Mukharji, B.L., Brahmin, age 40 years.	453
4	"Barisal Hitaishi" ...	Barisal ...	Do. ...	Durga Mohan Sen, Hindu, Baidya, age 35 years ...	625
5	"Banga Janani" ...	Rangpur (Bhotmari) ...	Do. ...	Sasi Mohan Adhikari, Hindu, Baidya, age 40 years ...	500
6	"Basumati" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Sashi Bhushan Mukherji; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 41 years	19,000
7	"Bharat Chitra" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Pran Krishna Pyne ...	300
8	"Birbhum Hitaishi" ...	Bolepur (Birbhum) ...	Do. ...	Dibakar Banerji, Hindu, Brahmin, age 43 years ...	325
9	"Birbhum Varta" ...	Suri (Do.) ...	Do. ...	Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 39 years ...	900
10	"Birbhum Vasi" ...	Rampurhat (Do.) ...	Do. ...	Nil Ratan Mukherji, B.A., Brahmin, age 45 years ...	600
11	"Biswadut" ...	Howrah ...	Do. ...	Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri; Hindu, Kayastha; age 38 years.	2,000
12	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	Do. ...	Probodhananda Sarkar, B.L., Kayastha, age 31 years ...	1,000
13	"Chabbis Pargana Vartavaha" ...	Bhowanipore ...	Do. ...	Hem Chandra Nag, Kayastha, age 39 years ...	500 to 700
14	"Charumihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Baikuntha Nath Sen, B.L., Kayastha, age 43 years ...	300
15	"Chinsura Varata-vaha" ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Dinanath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 47 years ...	1,000
16	"Dainik Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	Daily, except on Thursday.	Hari Das Dutt, Hindu, Kayastha, age 42 years and Kahetra Nath Sen.	2,000
17	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	Weekly ...	Saty Bhushan Dutt Roy, Baidya, age 46 years ...	500
18	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Mukunda Behari Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 41 years ...	750
19	"Dursak" ...	Calcutta ...	Do.
20	"Education Gazette" ...	Chinsura ...	Do. ...	Pandit Kunud Deb Mukharjee, Brahmin, age 56 years.	1,500
21	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur ...	Fortnightly ...	Raj Mohan Masumdar, Hindu, Baidya, age about 76 years...	300
22	"Habul Matin" ...	Calcutta ...	Daily ...	Saiyid Jelaluddin, Shiah, age 61 years ...	500
23	"Gaud Dut" ...	Malda ...	Weekly ...	Krishna Chandra Agarwalla ...	400
24	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Rajshahi ...	Do. ...	Kasimuddin Sarkar, Muhammadan Printer, age 40 years ...	300
25	"Hindusthan" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Hari Das Dutt, Hindu, Kayastha, age 42 years ...	900
26	"Hitavadi" ...	Do. ...	Do. ...	Manindra Nath Basu, Hindu, Kayastha, age 43 years ...	25,000
27	"Hitavarta" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	Birendra Lal Das Gupta, Hindu, Baidya ...	800
28	"Islam Rabi" ...	Mymensingh ...	Do. ...	Maulvi Naziruddin Ahmad, Musalman, age about 33 years	700
29	"Jagaran" ...	Bagerhat ...	Do. ...	Amarendra Nath Majumdar, Hindu, Kayastha ...	About 300
30	"Jasohar" ...	Jessore ...	Do. ...	Ananda Mohan Chaudhuri, Hindu, Kayastha ...	600
31	"Jyoti" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	Kali Sankar Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 46 years ...	2,000
32	"Kalyani" ...	Magura ...	Do. ...	Bisweswar Mukherji, Brahmin, age 48 years ...	500

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation
1	2	3	4	5	6
	BENGALI—contd.				
33	"Kaspore Nibasi" ...	Barisal ...	Weekly ...	Pratap Chandra Mukherji; Brahmin, age 68 years ...	500
34	"Khulnavasi" ...	Khulna ...	Do. ...	Gopal Chandra Mukherji; Hindu, Brahmin, age 53 years ...	100
35	"Malda Samachar" ...	Malda ...	Do. ...	Kali Prassanna Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 42 years ...	1,100
36	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia ...	Do. ...	Bagala Charan Ghosh; Hindu, Kayastha; age 41 years ...	About 500
37	"Midnapore Hitaishi" ...	Midnapore ...	Do. ...	Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 35 years ...	500
38	"Medini Bendhab" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Deb Das Karan; Hindu, Sadgop; age 45 years ...	400
39	"Moslem Hitaishi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Shajik Abdur Rahim and Momtazul Haque ...	6,300
40	"Mubammadi" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Muhammad Akram Khan, Musalman, age 37 years, and Maulvi Akbar Khan.	About 1,400
41	"Murahidabad Hitaishi" ...	Saidabad ...	Do. ...	Sanwari Lal Goswami; Hindu, Brahmin; age 48 years ...	200
42	"Nayak" ...	Calcutta ...	Daily ...	Panchkari Banerjee and Birendra Chandra Ghosh ...	2,500
43	"Navavanga" ...	Chandpur ...	Weekly ...	Harendra Kisore Ray, Kayastha, age 25 years ...	400
44	"Noakhali Sammilani" ...	Noakhali ...	Do. ...	Rajendra Lal Ghosh, Kayastha, age 26 years ...	200
45	"Nihar" ...	Contai ...	Do. ...	Madhusudan Jana, Brahmo, age 44 years ...	500
46	"Pallivarta" ...	Bongong ...	Do. ...	Charu Chandra Ray, Hindu, Kayastha; age 4 years ...	500
47	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna ...	Do. ...	Sasi Bhushan Banerji, age 48 years ...	300
48	"Pabna Hitaishi" ...	Pabna ...	Do. ...	Besanta Kumar Vidyavinode, Bhattacharyya, Brahmin, age 36 years.	650
49	"Paricharak" ...	Calcutta ...	Bi-weekly ...	Kailash Chandra Sircar, age about 38 years ...	400
50	"Praja Bandhu" ...	Tippera ...	Fortnightly ...	Babu Purna Chandra Chakravarti, Kalivarta Brahmin, age 36 years.	150
51	"Prasun" ...	Katwa ...	Weekly ...	Banku Behari Ghose, Goala, age 42 years ...	645
52	"Pratihar" ...	Berhampur ...	Do. ...	Kamakshya Prasad Ganguly, Brahmin, age 66 years ...	503
53	"Purulia Darpan" ...	Purulia ...	Do. ...	Amulya Ratan Chatterji, Brahmin, age 41 years ...	About 700
54	"Ratnakar" ...	Asansol ...	Do.	200
55	"Rangpur Durpan" ...	Rangpur (Bhotmari) ...	Do. ...	Sarat Chandra Majumdar, Hindu Brahmin, age 46 years ...	400
56	"Rangpur Dikprakash" ...	Ditto ditto ...	Do. ...	Joykish Chandra Majumdar, Hindu, Brahmin, age about 35 years.	300
57	"Samay" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Jnanendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., Brahmo, age 59 years ...	700
58	"Sammilani" ...	Ditto ...	Fortnightly ...	Kali Mohan Bose, Brahmo, age about 40 years ...	300
59	"Sanjaya" ...	Faridpur ...	Weekly ...	Rama Nath Ghosh, Kayastha, age about 40 years ...	500
60	"Sanjivani" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Sihnath Sastri, M.A.; Ramananda Chatterji, M.A., Editor, "Modern Review," etc.; K. K. Mitter.	6,000
61	"Samsodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	Kashi Chandra Das Gupta, Brahmo, age 60 years ...	400
62	"Suhrid" ...	Perojpur ...	Fortnightly ...	Ram Chandra Pal, Kayastha ...	150
63	"Subarnabanik" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	Kiron Gopal Singha, Subarnabanik, age 29 years ...	1,000
64	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-Ananda Patrika" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 41 years, and Mrinal Kanti Ghosh.	17,000
65	"Siksha Samachar" ...	Dacca ...	Do. ...	Abinas Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Baidya, age 36 years ...	1,500
66	"Suraj" ...	Pabna ...	Do. ...	Kisori Mohan Roy, Hindu, Kayastha, age 38 years ...	500
67	"Tripura Guide" ...	Comilla ...	Do. ...	Rajani Kanta Gupta, Hindu, Baidya, age 46 years ...	400

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	BENGALI—consolid.				
68	"Tripura Hitaisi"	Tippera	Weekly	Kamantiya Kumar Singha, Brahmo, age 25 years	450
69	"Vartabaha"	Ranaghat	Do.	Girija Nath Mukherji, Hindu, Brahmin, age 62 years	600
70	"Viswavarta"	Dacca	Do.	Abinash Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Hindu, Baidya, age 36 years.	12,000
	HINDI—				
71	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	Do.	Ambika Prasad Bajpai, Hindu, Brahmin, age 40 years	3,400
72	"Birbharat"	Do.	Do.	Pandit Ramanand Dubay, Hindu, Brahmin, age 30 years	500
73	"Dainik Bharat Mitra"	Do.	Daily	Ambika Prasad Bajpai, Hindu, Brahmin, age 40 years	300
74	"Hindi Bangavasi"	Do.	Weekly	Hari Kisson Joahar, Hindu, Kshatriya, age 37 years	5,500
75	"Marwari"	Do.	Do.	R. K. Tebrivala, Hindu, Vaisya, age 42 years	500
76	"Sudharak"	Do.	Do.	Radha Mohan Gukalji, Hindu, Agarwalla, age 50 years	500
	URDU—				
77	"Durbar Gazette"	Do.	Daily	Nawab Ali	1,000
78	"Al Hilal"	Do.	Weekly	Maulana Abul Kalam Azed, a Muhammadan age 27 years	1,000
79	"Hablul Matin"	Do.	Daily	Saiyed Jelal-ud-din Shiah, age 61 years	700
	PERSIAN—				
80	"Hablul Matin"	Do.	Weekly	Saiyed Jelal-ud-din Shiah, age 61 years

Name of the vessel	Date of departure	Place of destination	Name of the captain	Remarks
1. "Hesperus"	1870	London	John Smith	Arrived at 10 AM
2. "Polaris"	1871	Paris	James Brown	Left at 5 PM
3. "Aurora"	1872	Brussels	Robert White	Arrived at 8 AM
4. "Mercury"	1873	Amsterdam	Thomas Green	Left at 12 PM
5. "Vesta"	1874	Antwerp	William Black	Arrived at 3 PM
6. "Juno"	1875	Rotterdam	Charles Grey	Left at 7 AM
7. "Mars"	1876	Hamburg	Richard King	Arrived at 11 AM
8. "Venus"	1877	Berlin	Henry Lee	Left at 4 PM
9. "Mars"	1878	Frankfurt	George Hall	Arrived at 9 AM
10. "Jupiter"	1879	Munich	Edward Adams	Left at 6 PM
11. "Saturn"	1880	Vienna	Samuel Baker	Arrived at 1 PM
12. "Uranus"	1881	Budapest	Joseph Clark	Left at 10 AM
13. "Neptune"	1882	Pest	Benjamin Evans	Arrived at 2 PM
14. "Pluto"	1883	Belgrade	Samuel Foster	Left at 8 PM
15. "Ceres"	1884	Constantinople	John Gibson	Arrived at 5 AM
16. "Pallas"	1885	Smyrna	Robert Hall	Left at 12 PM
17. "Vesta"	1886	Aden	Thomas King	Arrived at 7 PM
18. "Juno"	1887	Colombo	William Lee	Left at 3 AM
19. "Mars"	1888	Calcutta	Charles Adams	Arrived at 11 PM
20. "Venus"	1889	Rangoon	Henry Baker	Left at 6 AM
21. "Mars"	1890	Batavia	George Clark	Arrived at 9 PM
22. "Jupiter"	1891	Sourabaya	Edward Evans	Left at 1 PM
23. "Saturn"	1892	Manila	Samuel Foster	Arrived at 4 PM
24. "Uranus"	1893	Cebu	Joseph Gibson	Left at 10 AM
25. "Neptune"	1894	Iloilo	Benjamin Hall	Arrived at 2 PM
26. "Pluto"	1895	San Francisco	John King	Left at 8 PM
27. "Ceres"	1896	San Pedro de Macoris	Robert Lee	Arrived at 5 AM
28. "Pallas"	1897	Santiago	Thomas Adams	Left at 12 PM
29. "Vesta"	1898	San Juan	William Baker	Arrived at 7 PM
30. "Juno"	1899	Puerto Rico	Charles Clark	Left at 3 AM
31. "Mars"	1900	San Juan	George Evans	Arrived at 11 PM
32. "Venus"	1901	San Juan	Henry Foster	Left at 6 AM
33. "Mars"	1902	San Juan	Charles Gibson	Arrived at 9 PM
34. "Jupiter"	1903	San Juan	Edward Hall	Left at 1 PM
35. "Saturn"	1904	San Juan	Samuel King	Arrived at 4 PM
36. "Uranus"	1905	San Juan	Joseph Lee	Left at 10 AM
37. "Neptune"	1906	San Juan	Benjamin Adams	Arrived at 2 PM
38. "Pluto"	1907	San Juan	John Baker	Left at 8 PM
39. "Ceres"	1908	San Juan	Robert Clark	Arrived at 5 AM
40. "Pallas"	1909	San Juan	Thomas Evans	Left at 12 PM
41. "Vesta"	1910	San Juan	William Foster	Arrived at 7 PM
42. "Juno"	1911	San Juan	Charles Gibson	Left at 3 AM
43. "Mars"	1912	San Juan	George Hall	Arrived at 11 PM
44. "Venus"	1913	San Juan	Henry King	Left at 6 AM
45. "Mars"	1914	San Juan	Charles Lee	Arrived at 9 PM
46. "Jupiter"	1915	San Juan	Edward Adams	Left at 1 PM
47. "Saturn"	1916	San Juan	Samuel Baker	Arrived at 4 PM
48. "Uranus"	1917	San Juan	Joseph Clark	Left at 10 AM
49. "Neptune"	1918	San Juan	Benjamin Evans	Arrived at 2 PM
50. "Pluto"	1919	San Juan	John Foster	Left at 8 PM
51. "Ceres"	1920	San Juan	Robert Gibson	Arrived at 5 AM
52. "Pallas"	1921	San Juan	Thomas Hall	Left at 12 PM
53. "Vesta"	1922	San Juan	William King	Arrived at 7 PM
54. "Juno"	1923	San Juan	Charles Lee	Left at 3 AM
55. "Mars"	1924	San Juan	George Adams	Arrived at 11 PM
56. "Venus"	1925	San Juan	Henry Baker	Left at 6 AM
57. "Mars"	1926	San Juan	Charles Clark	Arrived at 9 PM
58. "Jupiter"	1927	San Juan	Edward Evans	Left at 1 PM
59. "Saturn"	1928	San Juan	Samuel Foster	Arrived at 4 PM
60. "Uranus"	1929	San Juan	Joseph Gibson	Left at 10 AM
61. "Neptune"	1930	San Juan	Benjamin Hall	Arrived at 2 PM
62. "Pluto"	1931	San Juan	John King	Left at 8 PM
63. "Ceres"	1932	San Juan	Robert Lee	Arrived at 5 AM
64. "Pallas"	1933	San Juan	Thomas Adams	Left at 12 PM
65. "Vesta"	1934	San Juan	William Baker	Arrived at 7 PM
66. "Juno"	1935	San Juan	Charles Clark	Left at 3 AM
67. "Mars"	1936	San Juan	George Evans	Arrived at 11 PM
68. "Venus"	1937	San Juan	Henry Foster	Left at 6 AM
69. "Mars"	1938	San Juan	Charles Gibson	Arrived at 9 PM
70. "Jupiter"	1939	San Juan	Edward Hall	Left at 1 PM
71. "Saturn"	1940	San Juan	Samuel King	Arrived at 4 PM
72. "Uranus"	1941	San Juan	Joseph Lee	Left at 10 AM
73. "Neptune"	1942	San Juan	Benjamin Adams	Arrived at 2 PM
74. "Pluto"	1943	San Juan	John Baker	Left at 8 PM
75. "Ceres"	1944	San Juan	Robert Clark	Arrived at 5 AM
76. "Pallas"	1945	San Juan	Thomas Evans	Left at 12 PM
77. "Vesta"	1946	San Juan	William Foster	Arrived at 7 PM
78. "Juno"	1947	San Juan	Charles Gibson	Left at 3 AM
79. "Mars"	1948	San Juan	George Hall	Arrived at 11 PM
80. "Venus"	1949	San Juan	Henry King	Left at 6 AM
81. "Mars"	1950	San Juan	Charles Lee	Arrived at 9 PM
82. "Jupiter"	1951	San Juan	Edward Adams	Left at 1 PM
83. "Saturn"	1952	San Juan	Samuel Baker	Arrived at 4 PM
84. "Uranus"	1953	San Juan	Joseph Clark	Left at 10 AM
85. "Neptune"	1954	San Juan	Benjamin Evans	Arrived at 2 PM
86. "Pluto"	1955	San Juan	John Foster	Left at 8 PM
87. "Ceres"	1956	San Juan	Robert Gibson	Arrived at 5 AM
88. "Pallas"	1957	San Juan	Thomas Hall	Left at 12 PM
89. "Vesta"	1958	San Juan	William King	Arrived at 7 PM
90. "Juno"	1959	San Juan	Charles Lee	Left at 3 AM
91. "Mars"	1960	San Juan	George Adams	Arrived at 11 PM
92. "Venus"	1961	San Juan	Henry Baker	Left at 6 AM
93. "Mars"	1962	San Juan	Charles Clark	Arrived at 9 PM
94. "Jupiter"	1963	San Juan	Edward Evans	Left at 1 PM
95. "Saturn"	1964	San Juan	Samuel Foster	Arrived at 4 PM
96. "Uranus"	1965	San Juan	Joseph Gibson	Left at 10 AM
97. "Neptune"	1966	San Juan	Benjamin Hall	Arrived at 2 PM
98. "Pluto"	1967	San Juan	John King	Left at 8 PM
99. "Ceres"	1968	San Juan	Robert Lee	Arrived at 5 AM
100. "Pallas"	1969	San Juan	Thomas Adams	Left at 12 PM

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

In the course of a long article the *Nayan* [Calcutta] of the 31st July refers to the introduction of English education in Afghanistan and agrees with those of the Amir's subjects who have protested against it. English education, thinks the writer, does more harm than good to an Oriental country by making intellectual libertinism take the place of religion in the name of free-thinking. An engrossing care for the material comforts of this world at a total disregard for the blessings of the next is the distinctive mark of the civilisation which follows in the wake of English education. It may be supposed that a blending of the East with the West will lead to an ideal state of things. But the product of a blending of the East with the West will neither be East nor West, just as the product of a blending of black with white is neither black nor white.

NAYAN,
July 31st, 1913.

2. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August says that if the Enos-Media line marks the northern boundary of European Turkey, Constantinople will always be at the mercy of its neighbouring States. Again, the Powers will most probably demand a war indemnity from Turkey. Under the circumstances, the writer urges all Indians to come forward with pecuniary help for Turkey and to buy Turkish bonds so that the glory of the Musalman race may be saved.

MOHAMMADI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

3. In an article published in the *Samaj* [Calcutta] for Jyaishta, 1330, B. E., Kshitimohan Das Gupta, M.A., says that while from the personal and sentimental points of view the ungenerous conduct of Europe towards Turkey and the sight of the downfall of the Ottoman Empire are most objectionable and painful, from the historical point of view there is nothing exceptionable in the defeat of Turkey caused by her failure to keep pace with the progress of civilisation and in the efforts and success of the ancient Thracian people to re-establish their superiority.

SAMAJ,
Jyaishta, 1330, B. E.

4. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 31st July, discussing the course of the war, remarks that Roumania is advancing in to the very heart of Bulgaria, causing endless sufferings to the people of that kingdom, and the Greeks and the Serbs too are pressing forward towards the Bulgarian capital amidst bloodshed and all the attendant horrors of warfare. The Powers have nothing, however, to say to all this. All their attention is taken up with the movements of Turkey in occupying Adrianople and Thrace. The point to consider is, what will be the outcome of it all? It is difficult to prophesy, but this may be hazarded safely that the Powers will make an attempt to make Turkey give up Adrianople, going the length of a naval demonstration against Constantinople or other Turkish ports to enforce their demand. But if Turkey resolves to stand firm at all costs, she will certainly retain the re-conquered territory. And if she surrenders to the threats of the Powers without a battle, she is likely to be troubled by an internal revolution, resulting in a change of Ministers. She must now be resolute and prepare for battle. That is the only thing she can do.

HABUL MATIN,
July 31st, 1913.

5. Turkey and Persia, writes a correspondent of the *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 3rd August, are the last vestiges of Moslem power on earth. It is, therefore, natural for, as well as the duty of, every Musalman on earth to sympathise with Turkey in her present condition. In this state of things it is extremely painful on the part of the Indian Musalmans to see how the British Government, to which their loyalty is unflinching, is dealing perfidiously with Turkey from the beginning of her present troubles and is, in fact, becoming mainly instrumental in bringing about her ruin.

HABUL MATIN,
Aug. 3rd, 1913.

6. To speak the truth, writes the *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August, we must say that the conduct of some British Ministers towards Turkey has greatly wounded the feelings of the Musalman community in India. It will take a

MOHAMMADI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

long time for the Indian Musalmans to forget the pains they have suffered at the sight of British Ministers rejoicing at the perils of Turkey, wishing greater perils for her and throwing to the winds former declarations and promises. At present they are even foremost amongst the European Powers in taking exception to the slight retrieval of fortune Turkey is seeking to effect through the internecine war in which the Balkan allies are engaged in contravention of the London treaty. It will be better for British Ministers to conduct themselves with more wisdom and foresight in this matter.

DIKPRAKASH,
Aug. 3rd, 1913.

The Balkan War and England.

7. The *Dikprakash* [Kakina] of the 3rd August has the following in English:—

"But the irony of this war is that Bulgaria, the most swelled-headed of all the confederates, has now been quickly metamorphosed into the humiliated, prostrated and ignominious position of Turkey, not through Turkey's doing, but by her own insatiable greed and vain-glorious conduct. One is almost tempted to think that at last God's justice and the cause of the true rights of an unjustly oppressed nation are beginning to assert themselves.

"The crushed, forsaken, dispirited, starving and bleeding Turkish nation, to the utter discomfiture and amazement of its fierce and blood-thirsty antagonists, has suddenly sprang to its feet, from the still smoking ashes of its ruin; and the brave Ottoman soldiers with unsurpassed courage, skilful dexterity, lightning swiftness and manly disregard for threatened consequences, the awful risks and impressive magnitude of forces arrayed against them, have already triumphantly marched upon their oldest, dearest and divinely sacred city of Adrianople—the 'chosen spot of plenty and delight'—and have reconquered it by the swords they have once more unsheathed in vindication of their just and inviolable rights, from their erstwhile vain-glorious, barbarous, cruel and devastating enemies, who carry fire, destruction, plague, fever and endless and nameless miseries, sufferings and atrocities wherever they go, and turn happy, smiling and peaceful villas and hamlets into hideous and howling graves and deserts. Adrianople, so dear to the heart of every Ottoman, full of the proudest memories and loving associations of over six centuries during which it has been one of the most cherished possessions that the Turks have held in Europe, resisting the irresistible ambitions and intrigues of the Western Powers, is again to-day joyfully and confidently flying the standard of her rightful Liege and Master the Sultan. But the rejuvenated and revived armies of Turkey flushed with their initial success and reassured by the admirable generalship of their commanders, specially of that brave, patriotic and gallant hero, Enver Bey—the darling of the Ottomans—they have actually carried the rushing torrent of victory right into the old Bulgarian territory, sweeping away all resistance and pursuing the terror-stricken, confused and confounded Bulgars! But the Asiatic world, practically the whole of the Eastern Hemisphere, is deeply pained, grieved and disappointed to find that it is again England—the Queen of the greatest, the mightiest Empire the world has ever seen, the traditional friend of the oppressed, the defender of Faith, the upholder of just rights, liberty and freedom of men, has taken it upon herself as a mandatory of the great European Concert, to warn Turkey to step back from Adrianople. Is this warning, this cruel behest, consistent with the incontrovertible and accepted principles of justice, equity, international morality or true neutrality?—or, we ask, even of a real spirit of self-help, so often preached and advocated? Why was not a whisper of protest heard or a warning finger raised when in 1908 Austria tore up the treaties of San Stefano and Berlin, humbled them to dust and treated them as if they were no more than mere 'shreds and patches'; and in complete defiance, not only of the Porte but of the whole of Europe, annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina to her territories? Why was Turkey, the ever faithful and devoted ally left to her own fate when nine months ago these so-called Balkan allies trampling under foot all treaty obligations, violating all the laws of morality, hankering after territory not their own, and contemptuously rejecting all proffered counsels of moderation, furiously and treacherously attacked the Ottomans from all sides?

"Turkey in this awful and tremendous crisis, forgetting her grievous wrongs, her unmerited injuries, her ill-requited fidelity, stood a suppliant at England's door for friendly mediation, for diplomatic assistance; but her

supplication was rejected. Her enemies emboldened and more encouraged and intoxicated by the loud applause freely bestowed upon them by the Western Powers, except Germany who evinced some sympathy with the Turks, almost battered at the gates of Constantinople; and still the Powers remained merely interested on-lookers, declaring the ripe moment for intervention had not yet arrived!!

"Why then should there now be a change in that attitude of callous neutrality? Why should not violated justice, outraged morality, scorned majesty, despised fidelity and the trampled rights of a nation be allowed, while fortune in her impartiality affords a chance, to re-assert themselves? The eager eyes of more than half the world are now steadily fixed upon the great Western Powers. Already all the diplomacies and pronouncements that have preceded and followed the bloody Balkan battles have served to create certain impressions seriously prejudicial to the good faith and national honour of the great Christian Powers; but if Turkey is now forced to adhere to a treaty which she was made to sign under threats and compulsion and which has already been torn to pieces and thrown to the winds by the "Allies," and if by virtue of this virtueless treaty she is made to part with Adrianople, which is not only next to Constantinople the most sacred and valued possession of the Ottomans, but represents the very key to the door to their capital city, the good faith and national integrity of the Christian Powers, the untarnished reputation of which ought, under all circumstances, to be matters of vital concern and supreme duty to them, will certainly have a very slender foundation in the eyes of much more than half the population of the world. But whatever the Powers may do, let Turkey live or die as the world expect her to do. Between a mean life and a heroic death her choice lies clear.

"We fervently hope our countrymen in India—Hindus and Mahomedans and others of whatever faith—will not forget the fact that Turkey was never in more urgent and pressing need for moral and financial support than she is now, and that in this hour of her bitterest trial and direst peril, they will do their duty liberally in these respects.

"As we write the electric telegraph brings us the infamous and outrageous news that the terrible Northern *Ursus* is about to pounce on Turkey, that his ships of war are already foaming and frothing at the mouth of the Bosphorus. All eyes are now feverishly, eagerly and expectantly turned upon mighty England. Will she not with her inborn and traditional greatness of mind stand between the powerful oppressor and the cruelly oppressed, and once more win the hearty and eternal gratitude and admiration of the world?"

8. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 31st July writes :--

"Turkey's friends."

"Germany and England are said everywhere to be Turkey's sincerest friends. But these friends have done nothing to assist Turkey since trouble came upon her—rather they have proved her worst enemies. England did Turkey serious injury by refusing her permission to march her troops across Egypt to Tripoli. Again, during the Balkan war, when the Allies occupied Salonika after committing terrible oppression and cruel murders, Mr. Asquith gave public expression to his overflowing love for Christianity in such a manner as seriously to wound Moslem susceptibilities. The Germans are a cunning and calculating people, who during the Tripolitan war allowed some of their trading ships to help Turkey by surreptitiously conveying food and munitions of war to the Tripolitans. Germany also allowed some German officers to fight for Turkey, whereas Britain withdrew the services of British naval officers lent to Turkey. Recently, however, semi-official utterances in Germany fill us with the apprehension that in regard to ousting Turkey from Adrianople, she will not be strictly neutral, but will play the role of a friend in the way England has been doing. In short, the way in which these Powers have been showing their friendship for Turkey ought to give food for reflection to the Turks and Indian Moslems.

9. The *Namai Muqquddas Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 27th July says

British policy.

that English policy is based upon the exigencies of the situation and one cannot therefore always discover the intentions underlying it. At first the agreement between Russia and England was regarding the Province of Macedonia. It has been the intention

HABLUL MATIN,
July 31st, 1913.

NAMAI MUQQUDDAS
HABLUL MATIN,
July 27th, 1913.

of Russia to become the master of the province of Tars which includes Adrianople, and thus virtually become the master of the Dardanelles. England is aware that this Russian move in the Turkish provinces would be prejudicial to British interests in Egypt.

In view of the situation in the Balkans it has been apprehended that Russia may gain predominance in the Bosphorus through Bulgaria. So Lord Morley by going to Berlin has laid the foundation of Anglo-German unity. It has been arranged between England and Germany to checkmate Russian intentions which have been calculated to become injurious to the interests of these Powers. It is, in the opinion of the paper, therefore not very unlikely that the pronouncements of Mr. Asquith regarding Turkey, though full of religious intolerance, are meant simply to put Russia on the wrong track. So the movement of the British fleet with sealed orders is meant to act promptly in case Russia tries to take possession of the province of Tars which is the goal of its ambition. If England withdraws from the *entente*, France and Russia will not have the strength of standing against Italy, Germany and Austria, which they have now. The Powers by apparently showing a united front at the conference of the Ambassadors wrested the province of Tars from the Russian grip. And they so bore themselves on the Balkan question, that one could not imagine that Russia would plunge into the boiling Balkan cauldron and then hazard the meeting with Austria, resulting in an altogether novel situation, Russia gaining nothing from it. From this standpoint it cannot but be guessed that though Britain may not be pleased with the Turkish move, she may yet be helping her in secret.

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

10. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August writes:—

European policy.

"As soon as Turkey regained her lost possession of Adrianople, the European Powers began to accuse her of having broken her treaty, and England even went so far as to threaten her with war. It does not matter a whit so long as Serbia or Greece or Roumania appropriates anything to herself, but when it is Turkey who does recover what she was robbed of, war is to be declared against her. In fact England has sent a number of war-ships towards Turkey. We Musalmans, who are loyal subjects of England, feel painfully hurt when we find England, who is known to be friendly to Turkey, treating her in this manner. We fully agree with the *Englishman*, whose remarks we quote below, that England's conduct will give rise to a tremendous agitation among Indian Musalmans. Our contemporary writes:—

"A very serious agitation is certain to arise amongst our Mohamedan fellow-subjects if Great Britain takes any part in an attempt to force Turkey to evacuate Adrianople.....We do not think Indian Moslems are justified in asking Great Britain to interfere with the Balkan Allies, but we do not think they would not have some justification in asking us to abstain from interfering with Turkey now.....We believe that in the circumstances Sir Edward Grey would be wise to consider very carefully before he sends one British ship to the Golden Horn. If there is to be any coercion of Turkey, the task ought to be left to the other Powers.....The Foreign Office owes it to the people of India to make a complete statement of facts. Such a statement would do a good deal towards modifying the agitation which we foresee coming."

We have, however, very little hope that Sir Edward Grey will do what our contemporary suggests.

HABUL MATIN,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

11. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August extols Turkey for the brave answer she has made to the Russian demonstration against her occupation of Adrianople.

Turkey's firmness.

The Turks have shown that they are prepared to die for the emancipation of their country. They have plainly told Russia that they are not going to be moved from Adrianople save by shot and shell. No naval demonstration will avail.

HABUL MATIN,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

12. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August writes that if the Powers have an eye only to Albania's interests, they will not insist on putting a Christian King to

The future of Albania.

rule over it. Since the majority of its population consists of turbulent and fanatical Moslems like the people of the North-Western Frontier of India,

only a Moslem Prince can be expected to govern the country peacefully. So let a Prince of the Turkish Royal Family be selected for the position.

13. The *Daily Urdu Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 30th July says that there cannot be a better opportunity for Persia than this, when England, Germany and Russia find themselves entangled in the Balkan troubles. It should make the most of the opportunity thus offered. After the present war is over the Powers will turn their attention to Persia and will make her dance any way they please. It would have been well if the Naib-us Sultamet had set about organizing the internal administration so as to free Persia from slavery for ever.

DAILY URDU
HABUL MATIN,
July 18th, 1913.

14. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August refers to Lord Morley's statement in the House of Lords to the effect that any unfriendly conduct of the British Government towards Persia is likely to lessen the loyalty of Indian Musalmans to the British *raj*, and says that Indian Musalmans have repeatedly begged the British Government to do justice to Turkey in her present difficulties. The religion which the Musalmans profess binds all Musalmans in ties of love. It is hoped that in Persia the good name of the British *raj* will not be allowed to be tarnished through the machinations of Russia.

MOHAMMADI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

15. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 31st July feels somewhat reassured by Lord Morley's recent speech in the House of Lords in course of the debate on Persian affairs initiated by Lord Curzon. If his professions are carried out in practice, he may rest content that Moslem attachment to the British Government will never be impaired. It is England's duty to persuade Russia to take away Russian troops from Northern Persia, and thereafter the two Powers should combine to assist the Persian Government in restoring order. Thereby they will win the gratitude of the entire Moslem world.

HABUL MATIN,
July 31st, 1913.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

16. Referring to Lord Carmichael's speech at the Dacca Durbar, the *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 3rd August heartily thanks His Excellency for his appreciation of the difficulties of the Indian public in the way of their readily co-operating with the police. It is the first time that the ruler of a province has thoroughly realised the situation and spoken a word for the public in this matter. It is hoped that the manner in which he has studied and realised the character of the police will enable him to reform it so as to make it the friend of the public.

HABUL MATIN,
Aug. 3rd, 1913.

17. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August narrates how in spite of all official efforts, the sale of contraband cocaine in India continues steadily. Recently a case came to the notice of the Customs authorities where a *dinghi* was found hovering about a ship proceeding down the river. Later a parcel was thrown out from the ship into the *dinghi*, but it fell into the river and was subsequently found to contain some twenty-five thousand rupees' worth of cocaine. Unfortunately neither was the *dinghi* captured, nor was the steamer detained. Was the Customs boat unequal to the work of chasing the *dinghi*? Why this unreasonable clemency? There is a huge gang importing cocaine here which requires special efforts to cope with.

BASUMATI,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

18. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August notices the memorial submitted to the Government by some cultivators of Barrackpore, who allege that they have been obliged to give up working in their fields for fear of losing their lives from stray bullets from the shooting range, since the death of a young boy and a cow some time ago. The paper hopes that the memorial will be favourably considered, as the loss of their occupation would deprive the peasants of their livelihood.

BANGAVASI,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

SAMAY,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

19. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 1st August narrates how lately in the Durgapur thana in the Mymensingh district some Garos were found to have flayed two kine alive because of the hides and also how, in Midnapur, the crime of poisoning kine for the sake of their hides is seriously rife. The paper asks Government to take steps to bring to their senses the demons in human form who are guilty of these cruel crimes.

NAYAK,
Aug. 5th, 1913.

"Trouble over a masjid."
20. The following is a full translation of an article which appears in the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 5th August:—

TROUBLE OVER A MASJID.

The Cawnpore Machhli (Bazar) masjid affair has gradually grown serious. When the news was first published in the *Nayak* our Musalman brethren did not buy the paper. Many of them thought that the news was false, for could the English demolish a part of a masjid belonging to Musalmans? It was only when the news was published in the *Englishman* and other big newspapers that their eyes were opened. And now the matter has given rise to a furious agitation among the Musalmans throughout India—an agitation not merely verbal but one that is causing riots and even destruction of life. The attitude at yesterday's Town Hall meeting leads us to think that there may be rioting in Calcutta also. To speak the plain truth, we must say that in such riots the Musalmans alone will be the losers; they alone will lose life and property. The police have rifles in their hands. Once they are fired, a large number of lives will be lost. Moreover, riots created in the name of religion will ultimately turn into sedition. Sir James Meston, the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces, is a generous man. But nevertheless he is a strong man and a *subberdust* one as well. In the arrangement he has made regarding the Machhli masjid there is nothing particular to find fault with, and at the beginning no Musalman did find fault with it. It is only subsequently that the agitation has sprung up. Of course every person has the right to petition the Governor-General. Had the Musalman community offered their protests on this principle we would have nothing to say against it. But if this principle is given up and rioting is begun, we are bound to protest against it on behalf of the public. The *Nayak* was the first to protest against the use of bombs by *bombwallas*, and the *Nayak* is the first to protest strongly against rioting by Musalmans on the ground of the demolition of a masjid. The results of treading a wrong path will be an useless destruction of life and the creation of a large number of helpless widows. We can never support rashness. We therefore say,—brethren, be quiet and work with some consideration. The English are the rulers, the undisputed sovereigns of India, all-powerful and possessed of immense mental power. If we uselessly quarrel with them, we alone shall be the losers. Subjects as we are, our principle should be one of self-preservation. We must manage to live somehow, increase our population, spread education and open the eyes of the people. Is it the time for us now to sacrifice our lives in useless disputes? It is necessary that the Musalman community in India should still for some time more continue to show the sort of loyalty with which they have so long had their purposes served. If you allow yourselves to be detected so soon and speak out your mind, you will simply proceed on the path of ruin. Save the situation even now if you can.

BA UMATI,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

21. Referring to the agitation about the Cawnpore mosque, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August writes:—

Ibid.

Moslems would be best advised not to make further trouble about it. The official *communique* shows that the affair has been exaggerated a good deal. There is no use quarrelling further over it.

NAYAK,
Aug. 5th, 1913.

22. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 5th August lays the charges of incapacity, cowardice, mismanagement, and a callous disregard for human life at the door of the police,

Ibid.

both high and low, in regard to the Cawnpore masjid affair. Why were not proper arrangements made beforehand by the Magistrate for the maintenance of peace? The Sub-Inspector and Kotwal were arrant cowards who ought at once to be dismissed from the service. The order of the Magistrate to shoot down

a mob armed with brick-bats was shameful. And the wonder of it is that besides the killing of a number of unarmed, brainless, fanatical Musalmans, a number of police constables also were wounded. Such was the marksmanship of the force which fired the volley. Sir James Meston is prayed to visit Cawnpore and personally enquire into the whole affair.

23. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 31st July is requested by the Chief

SANJIVANI,
July 31st, 1913.

"Trouble over a masjid."

Secretary to the Government of the United Provinces to announce that no masjid has been demolished at Cawnpore. Only a small piece of land attached to a masjid on one side has been acquired, and this loss to the masjid will be compensated by attaching to it an equal plot of land on another side.

The editor remarks that no one ought to make any objection to this arrangement.

24. Commenting on the press *communiqué* issued by the United Provinces Government on the Cawnpore masjid the *Daily Urdu Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 31st July

DAILY URDU HABLUL
MATIN,
July 31st, 1913.

Ibid.

observes :—

"Does Sir James Meston consider that this explanation will wipe out the tears of Moslems? We do not know why Sir James is so obstinate on this point nor can we understand why he follows such counsellors who mislead him. Is he under the impression that if the Government gives way now the Musalmans will be emboldened,—so it is not advisable to show any sign of weakness on the part of the Government?"

It then draws the attention of Sir James to the loyalty of the Moslems and their self-restraint during the last agitation in Bengal, when sedition was rife in the country. In spite of all this the only compensation which the Musalmans are receiving is that all their national rights and privileges are being trampled upon. All their loud cries and lamentations regarding the Cawnpore mosque and their active sympathy with the Turks are being looked upon as false and untrue. The Government should know that the Musalmans are at present greatly disaffected."

25. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 30th July writes that the official *communiqué* regarding the Cawnpore mosque is not at all convincing. Its arguments are lame and

HABLUL MATIN,
July 30th, 1913.

Ibid.

halting. It has been proved at public meetings ever so many times that, according to the tenets of Islam, the courtyards and all the surrounding area of a mosque are parts of the mosque, to be treated with equal reverence. So it is no use for the Lieutenant-Governor to say that the demolished part of the mosque was no part of the mosque properly speaking. This would have been listened to with some respect if he could have adduced the opinion of any Moslem authority to this effect. Moslems are not bound to listen to him if he assumes the rôle of a Sheikh-ul-Islam. Moslems are bound to obey him in matters political, but his opinions on Islamic religious points are worth absolutely nothing to them.

It is said that it was necessary to demolish this building to have the road made straight. This is an utterly new reason for demolishing a mosque, and a religious people like the Indians will not appreciate it, though it may be held a just and proper ground in countries where the religious spirit is less strong. In Cawnpore itself there are cases where the road has been made to take a devious course in order that a religious edifice may not be demolished. So it is in the case of the Chitpur Road in Calcutta also. There is time still to rectify the mistake made and let His Honour be generous enough to undo the wrong done and thereby let Moslem susceptibilities be respected.

26. The *Daily Urdu Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 3rd August has the following "lamentation of the Cawnpore Mosque:"—

DAILY URDU HABLUL
MATIN,
Aug. 3rd, 1913.

Cawnpore mosque's wail of woe
to Britannia.

"Woe to me! The officials of the city have cut my body with pick-axes and trowels. I did not even heave a sigh and bore calmly untold tyrannies. If I had wished I could have created a revolution by giving vent to a sigh. But I restrained myself as I thought their blood will be upon me. With the help of shining bayonets they tore my limbs and then they were satisfied. I beg to remind Lord Hardinge that there is a Power over other powers. Did God place you in this high position that you may calmly look on while your subordinate officials

break the house of God? Musalmans are weeping and crying, you do not even hear them. There are loud lamentations and mournings to which you have turned a deaf ear. Recollect even now that my God has elevated you to do justice to your subjects. You will have to appear before that Ruler of all rulers Whose mansion you are seeing demolished. When you appear before your Maker, what answer will you give then? This is my prayer to Lord Hardinge: 'Respect God's mansion and do not break into pieces the hearts of the seven crore Mohamedans.'

But if Lord Hardinge does not grant my prayer and my appeal to him is in vain, then I bequeath this heritage to the Moslems in India. In spite of the sad fate that has befallen me or will befall me in future, they should observe mourning for me with enthusiasm, but at the same time they should not act in any way contrary to the injunctions of their sacred religion and the laws of the country.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

27. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August is astonished to learn that, in Bihar and Orissa Magistrates often send boys under 16 years of age to the common jail and hopes that the Government of the Province will issue strict orders forbidding this practice.

Boys under 16 years of age sent to the common jail in Bihar and Orissa.

DIAMOND HARBOUR
HITAISHI,
July 26th, 1913.

28. The *Diamond Harbour Hitaishi* [Diamond Harbour] of the 26th July complains of great want of accommodation in the Civil Court building at Diamond Harbour. The *amlā* of four Munsifs' courts have to huddle themselves up in two rooms. This not only impairs their health but also interferes with the proper discharge of their duties. The building is old and dilapidated, and it requires a thorough overhauling.

The Civil Court Building at Diamond Harbour.

CHARU MIHIR,
July 29th, 1913.

29. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 29th July suggests that the service of summonses and subpoenas in Criminal cases should be made by post instead of by peons, who are not always honest and put litigants to great trouble and much expense as well, in the form of illegal gratification to court employes.

Service of summonses and subpoenas in Criminal cases.

NAYAK,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

30. Referring to the Mainpuri *Sati* Case, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 1st August says:—

The Mainpuri *sati* case.

We are not in the habit of discussing the merits of judicial decisions. The District Judge's decision in this *sati* case, however, obliges us to depart from this practice, because the case is intimately connected with our religion and society. Apart from all considerations of sentiment which could not have any weight with the European Judge in this case, we are unable to make out how he could find the accused persons guilty even from the legal point of view. The woman became a *sati* out of her own will. No one induced her to take the course. On the contrary, her relatives tried hard to dissuade her from her purpose. But she refused to be guided by their counsel. Her strong will made everybody obey her commands. Under the circumstances we fail to make out how the Judge arrived at the decision that the presence of a large number of men and their sympathy with her had indirectly encouraged her to become a *sati*. In fact, her resolve to become a *sati* was not the effect of a temporary excitement caused by the sight of a large number of sympathisers,—rather it was the news of her resolve which had brought a large number of men to the cremation-ground. To the last she maintained a wonderfully calm and firm demeanour. Calmly and firmly she ascended the funeral pyre. Her countenance blanched not in the least, not a hair of her head trembled. The Judge ought to have given a careful consideration to this point.

Again the Judge has said that although none but the *chaukidar* was legally bound to draw her out of the funeral pyre and prevent her from committing suicide, all the people present at the place were guilty of helping her to commit suicide by every act of theirs which they did in this connection, namely, preparing the pyre and so forth. The conduct of the accused persons

was, according to him, similar to the conduct of one who supplied a gun and cartridges to a person knowing that he would commit suicide with them. Now just as the mere supply of a gun without cartridges cannot enable a person to commit suicide, so the mere preparation of a funeral pyre without setting fire to it cannot enable a woman to become a *sati* and does not amount to helping a person to commit suicide. A funeral pyre had to be prepared for cremating the dead body of the Mainpuri *sati*'s husband, so that the accused persons could not be guilty of committing any offence by preparing it. To make them guilty it was necessary that they should set fire to it. But there is no proof that they did so. On the contrary, it was stated in evidence that on their refusal to set fire to the pyre the woman caused fire to break out of itself by the force of her righteousness. Most probably the European Judge did not believe this story. So in his judgment he has said "However this may be, there is no doubt that it began to burn." It does not matter whether he believed the story or not, the point here is that there is not a tittle of evidence to prove that any of the accused persons set fire to the pyre. How then can it be said that they helped the woman to commit suicide? The assessors, one of them a Hindu and another a Musalman, who heard the case returned a verdict of not guilty. The judge, however, set this verdict at naught on the ground of its having been biased by sentimental considerations. Of course the Hindu assessor might have been swayed by sentimental considerations in a *sati* case, but what about the Musalman assessor who could have absolutely no respect for the *sati* rite?

31. Although the police officers concerned in the marginally-noted case have been acquitted of the charges brought against them the "terrible acts of oppression," which the witnesses for the prosecution have deposed to, lead the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August to think that His Excellency Lord Carmichael should personally investigate the case and take the necessary measures with regard to it.

BANGAVASI,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

32. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August writes:—
Sometime ago, the *Moslem Hitaishi* made some remarkable statements in connexion with a suit instituted against Rai Banamali Ray Bahadur of Taras in Pabna by some of his Moslem tenants. These tenants complained that their houses had been looted by the Rai Bahadur's orders because they had killed kine. The *Hitaishi* suggests that the Magistrate should have collected evidence against the Rai Bahadur. It also says that this Magistrate in some previous cases, acted with an anti-Moslem bias. These are astounding allegations. The invaluable advice gratis which the paper offers on the duty of the Magistrate may be dismissed as the ravings of a lunatic. But the other allegation about his anti-Moslem bias should be inquired into, and if not substantiated, the journal should be adequately punished. For it has been guilty not only of contempt of court but of creating racial ill-feeling between Hindus and Moslems. The paper has also insinuated that from the Governor to the District Magistrate, all are unwilling to defend Moslems from oppression. The impudence of this insinuation is unpardonable. Men who do not know what harm is done by such statements are enemies of society.

BASUMATI,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

(c)—Jails.

33. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August draws the attention of the Government to the complaint that the under-trial prisoners in the Barisal conspiracy case are being badly treated in jail by the jail authorities. It is rumoured that they are given nasty food to eat. They have petitioned the Government in this matter.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

(d)—Education.

34. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 30th July remarks that it is no good establishing a University with funds paid out of one's own pockets and then allowing Government to have full control over it.

DAINIK BHARAT
MITRA,
July 30th, 1912.

MOSLEM HITAISHI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

Primary Education and Musal-
mans.

35. In an article under the heading noted in the margin, the *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August writes:—

In Eastern Bengal the Sub-Inspectors of Schools have to pass an examination. We do not see what good this examination can serve save that it handicaps those officers in their promotion in the grades. Besides, we know from personal experience that Sub-Inspectors of Schools who have failed in the examination are generally much more competent than those who have passed it. This examination causes the greatest hardship to the officers whose services have been transferred from District Boards, and since the majority of them are Musalmans the examination has practically placed an obstacle in the path of Musalman Primary Education which depends so much on those officers. Messrs. Sharp and Stapleton did their utmost to promote the interests of the Sub-Inspectors, but so far nothing good has been done to them. We suggest that the examination should be abolished and that the Sub-Inspectors be required simply to go through a course of special training. It is also of great importance that the salaries of Sub-Inspectors of Schools which were fixed about 25 years ago should be raised now. It is a well-known fact that these officers are very poorly paid, although many of them are graduates. And since primary education owes so much to them it is but proper that they should not be made to work on almost starvation salaries.

NAVAVANGA,
July 26th, 1913.

Need of more High Schools in
Bengal.

36. The *Navavanga* [Chandpur] of the 25th July says that the existing High Schools in Bengal are proving unable to meet the growing educational necessities of the country. While such is the state of things the authorities have promulgated stringent rules in the matter of establishing High Schools so that it is now-a-days almost impossible for private enterprise to establish new High Schools. Government is requested to withdraw these rules and also to establish a large number of new High Schools at its own cost.

PALLIVARTA,
July 29th, 1913.

Scholarships of students of
Guru-training Schools.

37. The *Pallivarta* [Bongong] of the 29th July draws the attention of the authorities to the fact that students of Guru-training Schools are not given their scholarships regularly every month. This irregularity causes great hardship to the poor students who depend entirely on their scholarships for the defrayal of their expenses.

TRIPURA HITAISHI,
July 23rd, 1913.

The Comilla Victoria College.

38. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 23rd July dwells on the necessity of adding a Science Department to the Comilla Victoria College and says that as the local landholders are mostly absentees, Government is the only source to which one may look for the necessary funds.

TRIPURA HITAISHI,
July 23rd, 1913.

"A strange Circular."

39. The *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 23rd July refers to a circular said to have been issued by M. Ahsanulla, Inspector of Schools, Chittagong Division, that 60 per cent. of the students at the Feni High English School must be Moslems, and the remaining 40 may belong to other committees. If true, this is a most improper arrangement.

SANJIVANI,
July 31st, 1913.

The Madaripur School affair.

40. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 31st July gives a detailed account of the meeting at the Madaripur High School, in which Mr. Beatson-Bell, its President, is said to have prohibited the singing of a song from the pen of Babu Ravindra Nath Tagore, refused to be garlanded by the boys saying, "I am not come here to be garlanded by dacoits", cut short the programme of recitations, and delivered a very objectionable speech. In this speech he is reported to have said—

"The guardians, the teachers, the boys of the upper three classes are wholly responsible for these dacoities. The teachers spread all seditious papers that are published from Calcutta before their boys; they read them and manage to make themselves perfect dacoits. They go to the Barisal Road and contemplate about their schemes and works. The Government is determined to check all these things anyhow. The boys must either confess their guilt in no time or it will be most fatal to them. All the boys of the upper three classes are seditious. They spread all sorts of germs of sedition. You boys! you should either correct yourselves in no time or it will be most fatal to you all," etc., etc.

Then when the students of the school prayed for leave in honour of his visit, he is reported to have said, "It is not desirable that dacoits should get leave." A. C. I. D. Inspector Rai Asvini Kumar Guha Bahadur, also said in the course of his speech at the meeting, "Well, my dear boys, it is a very sorrowful thing for us that you conspire against the Government." Such a wholesale arraignment of the boys on the joyous occasion of a distribution of prizes has deeply wounded their feelings. The local Subdivisional Officer frequently visits the classes of the school for identification of dacoits. Is this proper? Should the future of all the boys be lighted for the fault of a few? It is rumoured that the school will be abolished and the local Madrassa turned into a High English School. Mr. Hornell will visit Madaripur on the 26th August. It is hoped that he will not do anything without careful consideration.

41. The *Sanyani* [Calcutta] of the 31st July, referring to Mr. Lyon's speech in the Comilla Yusuf School, says:—

Discussion of politics by Mr. Lyon at a school.

In a circular which Mr. Lyon issued while he was Chief Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, he forbade teachers and students from discussing politics or from hearing political speeches. But at the Yusuf School, Mr. Lyon himself has delivered a political speech before students and teachers and abused the agitators against the Government's educational policy. What right had Mr. Lyon to abuse the respected countrymen of the students? He ought to apologise for this.

Again, Mr. Lyon has said, he who pays the piper has the right to call for the tune. Now, the money which Government spends on education is really the people's money, so that it is really the people of the country who spend the money through their representatives, the Government. Moreover Mr. Lyon's calculation also was wrong. According to the Government of India's own statement, the following sums of money were spent on education in Western Bengal and Eastern Bengal by the Government and the public respectively in 1911-12:—

Western Bengal.

	Rs.
Government, District Boards and municipalities	68,10,000
Public—on account of school-fees	67,88,000
On account of donations	36,64,000
Total	1,03,92,000

Eastern Bengal.

Government, District Boards and municipalities	40,11,000
Public—on account of school-fees and donations	40,35,000

Now, we ask Mr. Lyon to say whether or not the piper is paid more by the public than by the Government. If the public pays him more, why should not the public call for the tune also?

In conclusion, Mr. Lyon expressed his love for Eastern Bengal. This love has bored Eastern Bengal to a degree beyond endurance and the sooner it is withdrawn the better for the country. To a Bengali there is no difference between Eastern Bengal and Western Bengal. Lord Curzon once tried the game of setting Eastern Bengal against Western Bengal and thus making his partition of Bengal *pucca*. But Bengalis will never be deluded by the sort of love expressed by Mr. Lyon.

42. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August considers the efforts on the part of the Government to completely prevent

High education and politics. politics from entering the field of high education as altogether mad. It is simply impossible to give the Indians an education compatible with modern civilization and culture and at the same time to keep them altogether aloof from politics.

43. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 28th July writes:—

The new educational policy. The time is now coming when the educational policy inaugurated by Lord Curzon is reaching its fulfilment. When the proposal emanated from Government to raise the salaries of school masters, great was the public rejoicing, but that exultation

SANYANI,
July 31st, 1913.

HITAVADI
Aug. 1st, 1913.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,
July 28th, 1913.

has now been succeeded by dire fore-bodings of impending disaster. For many people apprehend that if the head-masters are to get Rs. 400 per month, the head-masters will in the future be always Europeans. Moreover, with the new system of School Final Examinations, success or failure at these examinations will depend on the favour of these European head-masters. This uncertainty about getting the certificates will deter many people from entering the high schools at all. The result will at first be that many people will go without any education at all. But later on the result will be to give a filip to national schools. That, however, is a matter for the distant future. For the present we must confine our attention to the one serious evil which the new educational policy will entail. The result of closing down many English schools will be to stop the social revolution which is in progress in the country levelling the lowest castes up with the highest. There are many people who hold that English education is an evil, since it has opened the eyes of Indians and made them demand political rights which they would not otherwise have done. This, however, if it is an evil, can be cured only by a thorough proscription of all English books from the country and not by the closing down of one or two English schools.

CHARU MIHIR,
July 29th, 1913.

Control of high schools.

44. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 29th July writes:—

It seems that our officials will never know any rest unless they can bring the education of the country entirely under the control of the Government. The present educational policy of the Government hangs over the head of the Bengali nation like the sword of Damocles; and this has caused a widespread alarm in the province. The Government is about to deprive the Calcutta University of what little power and privilege have been left to it by Lord Curzon's Universities Act. At present the University supervises and controls the High English schools. But since the Swadeshi agitation began these schools have been in the bad books of the Government, and they are now closely watched by detectives as well as by the inspectors of schools. In spite of all this, however, the number of schools is rapidly increasing and the people are showing greater and greater zeal for education. This has made the official community rather nervous about the safety of British rule in India, for they see in the multiplication of high schools an increase in the strongholds of sedition and anarchism. And so they want to bring the schools under their own absolute control. They do not approve of the way in which the Calcutta University affiliates schools, and hence the privilege of affiliation will be taken away from it. The establishment of a University at Dacca, another in Bihar, and probably yet another in Burma, will serve to reduce the amount of work which the Calcutta University has now to perform. It will thus be able to keep a keener watch and exercise a stronger control over the schools. We, therefore, fail to see what justification there can be for depriving the University of a power which it has never misused and which it will soon be able to use to greater advantage. Besides, overworked as the officials already are, we doubt whether they will be able to do justice to the task of supervising schools which is about to be imposed upon them. The result of all this will be a rapid reduction in the number of schools, a thing which will seriously affect the spread of education. Again the abolition of the Matriculation Examination and the introduction of the School Final Examination will mean that in place of the four or five thousand boys that pass the former examination now, the number of passes will be about four or five hundred. In other words, the cause of education will receive a severe blow, though we doubt whether that will cool the ardour that our people now have for education. We are confident, however, that the Government will not adopt such an illiberal policy.

JASCHAR.
July 26th, 1913.

45. The *Jaschar* [Jessore] of the 26th July considers it a great pity that the Government should be thinking of dealing a

Ibid.

severe blow at high education in Bengal and thus create discontent anew. It is the English who made the path of education easy in this country, and it is they again who are now going to make that path thorny. Verily, concludes the paper, it is nothing but the ill-luck of the Indian people that is bringing all this upon them.

46. The following appears in English in the *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 28th July:—

Control of high schools.

The country, we fear, will not support the policy of the Government now proposed to be adopted. Rather we apprehend a widespread discontent will again convulse the country. The Bengal partition agitation has not long ceased. The country is hardly relieved of a terrible convulsion when it is on the brink of another agitation. Calcutta has already sounded a discordant note and her example will soon be followed by the country at large. The wise statesmanship of Lord Hardinge will, we believe, prove equal to the task. His Excellency will not permit himself to be misled by the sun-dried bureaucrats of life-long Indian experience. The Indian civilians cannot easily get rid of their early notions even when removed to the serene atmosphere of the Imperial Government, and, as they form the majority of the Executive Council of the Governor-General of India, they often carry their points against the wise counsel of veteran statesmen having long training in the free atmosphere of a free country. So we fear Lord Hardinge is helpless in the hands of his illiberal colleagues who will never allow him to have his own way.

47. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 28th July says that a transfer of the control of secondary schools to the Government and the introduction of a system of School

Ibid.

Final Examinations in Bengal will seriously affect the position of the Calcutta University and injure the cause of education in the country. The Calcutta University has never complained of overwork, and that it has never failed to do its work properly is borne out even by the Bengal Government Administration Report. As regards affiliation of schools, although the University has no arrangement for inspection of schools, yet it never affiliates any school so long as the Government Inspector does not recommend its affiliation. In view of the possibility of disputes occurring between Government Inspectors and school authorities, it is necessary that there should be a third party like the University Syndicate to decide such disputes. It will be extremely unjust to give one of the disputing parties, namely, the Education Department, the power to decide the disputes.

The introduction of a system of School Final Examinations will take away the spirit of competition from students and make it impossible to gauge their relative merits. It will have the same disastrous effect on English education as the introduction of a similar system in Middle schools has had on vernacular education. As regards introducing a uniform system with Madras and Bombay, the Government of India itself has said in its Administration Report, that it has "no desire to centralise provincial systems or to attempt to introduce a superficial uniformity."

48. The *Mohammadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August says that the Government of India ought not to disregard the united protests of Hindus and Musalmans in Bengal against its educational policy.

Ibid.

49. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 29th July says that the Town Hall meeting was a brilliant success. In it the *elite* of Bengal and Bihar gathered to protest against the Government's educational policy. Will the Government be able to disregard the protest of such a gathering? Lord Hardinge is reported to be a wise and farsighted statesman, one not given to following mere whims. It is therefore hoped that he will not disregard this protest, but on the contrary take care not to give occasion for the creation of a huge and fiery agitation like that waged against the partition of Bengal.

50. In continuation of the article noticed in paragraph 46 of the Report on Native Papers for the 2nd August 1913, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August writes that at this very moment when Government is seeking to replace Bengali by English as the medium of instruction at the Calcutta Medical School, as it has already replaced it at the Campbell Medical School, able Bengalis like Mr. Justice Chaudhuri and Dr. P. C. Ray are making public declarations about the impolicy of making a foreign language like English the medium of instruction for youths and boys in preference to their

The discontinuation of Bengali as the medium of instruction in medical schools.

DACCA GAZETTE
July 28th 1913.

JYOTI,
July 28th, 1913.

MOHAMMADI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

NAYAK,
July 29th, 1913.

BASUMATI,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

mother-tongue. The fact remains that with Bengali as the medium of instruction, the Campbell Medical School and the Temple Medical School at Dacca turned out hundreds of medical men who afforded relief to the disease-stricken villagers of Bengal. These schools enabled many poor students to earn a livelihood for themselves as well as to save the lives of others. Moreover, the use of Bengali as the medium of instruction in these schools greatly encouraged the composition of Bengali medical works. Why then should Government now disfavour Bengali? The public have a right to ask this question.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

51. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August says:—Government is seriously mistaken if it thinks that the unrecognised medical schools in the country are an unmitigated nuisance and that they turn out only quacks who kill and never cure men. As a matter of fact, these schools turn out able medical men whose services to the country are very valuable. Government officers happening to visit these schools have always spoken highly of them. Why then has the Government become so eager now to destroy them? Again, even if it be admitted for argument's sake that they do turn out quacks, what arrangement has the Government made to replace these quacks so that poor people throughout the country may get medical aid as easily and cheaply as they get it from them?

Again, if it is ruled that none but Matriculation-passed students should be admitted into private medical institutions, these institutions will die out because students will never go to them in preference to Government medical institutions. We think that private institutions should admit Matriculation plucked students, as also those who have passed the Middle English examination; and further that Government should aid and inspect them.

In conclusion, the writer protests against any rule prohibiting the teaching of medical science through the medium of Bengali.

JASOHAR,
July 26th, 1913.

52. While admitting the soundness of the principle of the proposed legislation with regard to the registration of medical practitioners, the *Jasohar* [Jessore] of the 26th July says that the measure should not be enacted so long as there are not a sufficiently large number of qualified medical men in this country. At present people in remote villages can very seldom have proper medical aid and have to depend on quacks. The Government would, says the paper, earn the eternal gratitude of the people if it opens a few more medical colleges and schools in the country.

PALLIVARTA,
July 29th, 1913.

53. The *Pallivarta* [Bongong] of the 29th July says that the contemplated legislation to penalise the conferment of any medical diploma or degree by any unrecognised institution, and the use of such degrees or

diplomas by persons, will, in the present state of the country, do more harm than good. For, in most places in the mufassal, the medical officer at the subdivisional head-quarters is the only qualified medical man in the subdivision, so that the health of villagers is taken care of by practitioners, whose knowledge of the healing art has been acquired in unrecognised private institutions. Although these practitioners are more or less quacks, their services are of the highest importance to the village in its present state. Unless Government can replace them by properly qualified medical men, it will be injudicious and even wrong to deprive the villagers of their aid.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

54. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August fully endorses the view expressed in the *Times* by an "Anglo-Indian Professor" protesting against the appointment of Mr. Hornell as Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, and says that this appointment is a fruit of the Government's new educational policy. But, remarks the writer, what is the use of crying against the appointment, which is now an accomplished fact.

PARICHARAK,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

55. The *Paricharak* [Calcutta] of the 1st August emphatically deprecates any further continuance of the agitation against Mr. Hornell's appointment. He has already been appointed and he is justifying his selection by the manner in which he is discharging his duties. Nothing but jealousy and hatred can now inspire those

who are asking for his removal. And if Government does decide on his removal, which it ought not to do by any means, let it not forget that besides Mr. James, there are two meritorious Indian Officers, who are his seniors, whose claims to the Directorship are no less strong than his. They are Mr. P. Mukherji and Dr. J. C. Bose.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

56. The *Vartavaha* [Ranaghat] of the 26th July says that the Imperial grant of 2½ lakhs of rupees to District Boards in Bengal for purposes of water-supply is inadequate to meet the necessities of the country. These 2½ lakhs of rupees constitute the full proceeds of the Public Works Cess. The Government of India ought to supplement the grant with money from other sources of income.

VARTAVAHA,
July 26th, 1913.

57. In an article under the heading "The harm done to Bengal by contaminated water," the *Swasthya Samachar* [Calcutta] of *Paus*, 1319 (B.E.) (December 1912—January 1913) warns its readers against using the water of the Hooghly which, it says, is highly contaminated by discharges from septic tanks. As the water available from the unfiltered water mains is put into the pipes just as it is obtained from the river, it should be avoided like poison.

SWASTHYA SAMACHAR,
Paus, 1319.

58. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August, discussing the question of special representation for Moslems on the Calcutta Municipality, writes:—

BASUMATI,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

Is there any evidence that Moslem interests were not protected or were injured because of the predominance of Hindu Commissioners? No value whatever can be attached to a vague insinuation like this, without a reliable and detailed statement of cases where Moslem interests have been injured by Hindu predominance. Again, if Moslems are allowed a separate electorate, why should not the same privilege be given to Brahmos, Sikhs, Jains, etc.? Our view is that all these communities are travelling in the same political boat, and no policy should be encouraged likely to create any differences amongst them.

59. The *Paricharak* [Calcutta] of the 1st August in discussing the new constitution of the Calcutta Municipality wants to know why the Indian Association, the Bengal Landholders' Association, the British Indian Association, etc., have not been favoured with the right to elect members on the new corporation.

PARICHARAK,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

60. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 31st July protests against the proposed grant of special representation to Musalmans on the Calcutta Municipal Board, on the following grounds:—

SANJIVANI,
July 31st, 1913.

1. The grant of special representation to Musalmans will create the idea in the minds of Hindus and Musalmans that they cannot have common interests.

2. In every Ward there are Musalman voters. If they are deprived of the right to elect Ward Commissioners they will no longer be able to work with Hindus for the welfare of the whole Ward.

3. The injury which has been done to the Musalman community by granting it special representation in Legislative Councils will be repeated. An able and learned man like Mr. Rasul was a candidate for a seat in the Bengal Legislative Council, but the Musalmans returned a much inferior man. This proves that if only Musalman rate-payers get the privilege of returning Musalman Commissioner, they will return only half-educated and weak-minded men.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

61. The *Navavanga* [Chandpur] of the 25th July says that as a protest against the indifference of the Assam-Bengal Railway authorities about removing the grievances of passengers, the inhabitants of a number of villages

NAVAVANGA,
July 25th, 1913.

convened a meeting at Hajiganj within the Chandpur subdivision, and resolved to try their best to avoid travelling by that railway.

HITAVARTA,
July 18th, 1913.

62. The *Hitavarta* [Chittagong] of the 18th July writes that the late floods in Sylhet and Cachar have produced an acute scarcity of food-grains in those places. Yet the

A Railway complaint.

Assam-Bengal Railway is not being able to provide wagons sufficient to transport rice in adequate quantities to Karmiganj, Silchar and other stations. Only some big European Companies are being provided with wagons, while many Indian traders for want of wagons find themselves unable to send up their consignments of rice. The matter demands the notice of Government.

PRANTAVASI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

63. The *Prantavasi* [Netrakona] of the 1st August urges on the Government of India the necessity of ignoring the protest

A railway from Bhairab Bazar to Netrakona.

of interested European merchants and constructing a railway from Bhairab Bazar to Netrakona, which will be conducive of much good from both political and commercial points of view.

BANGAVASI,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

64. Referring to the case brought against a Bengali youth by a military officer who is alleged to have been assaulted by the former on the platform of the railway station at Sonarpur (24-Parganas), the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta]

The Sonarpur Station assault case.

of the 2nd August writes:—

"We will not say anything regarding the case itself for it is now *sub judice*. But we should like to know whether or not it is a fact that the Station Master of Sonarpur said that he could do nothing in the matter as he had no authority over a European. We ask the authorities of the Eastern Bengal State Railway to consider whether the Station Master was at all justified in not interfering in the matter.

We do not think that a man, who is so far lost to all sense of responsibility as not to dare interfere in a case of disturbance created on a station platform by a Saheb and a Bengali, simply because a Saheb was concerned in it, ought to be kept in an important place like Sonarpur."

BASUMATI,
Aug. 2nd, 1913.

65. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August refers to a rumour that the office of the Executive Engineer, Drainage

The Jessore Drainage Division.

Division at Bongong, is about to be transferred to Calcutta or Khulna, and that Bholanath Babu, the Engineer, who came with high hopes of improving the local drainage, has remarked that he is leaving the place without having so far effected any useful work for Jessore. The paper asks Government to publish the report which Bholanath Babu has submitted to Government on this question and consult public opinion on it. Let this be done promptly, for the interests involved are vital.

NIHAR,
July 29th, 1913.

66. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 29th July writes that the recent heavy rainfall and storms have submerged the whole of that locality and caused immense loss of property.

Floods in Contai.

Entire tracts of country are under water—roads, fields, houses and all. The floods would not be so bad if the water from the highlands at Khagda and Dubda Pant and Dantun had not been drained through the Orissa Coast Canal into this area. Steps should be taken promptly to stop this inflow of water through the Orissa Coast Canal if there is to be any cultivation undertaken this season. This can be effected by keeping open for some time the locks at Bhograi and Dandaparulia and the sluices at the 12th mile and at Samudrapur. Furthermore, steps should be taken permanently to prevent the possibility of this area being flooded like this again through the inflow of water through the Orissa Coast Canal. The works necessary for that end are the building of a lock or sluice across the Orissa Coast Canal at Masagaon or at the 12th mile (so as to arrest the inflow of water from the high country about Dantun) and the widening of the Sarpai sluice and also the excavation of a canal from near the Dandaparulia lock to the Bagda river, with a sluice at its confluence such as that which exists at Sarpai. Recently the Superintending Engineer of the South-Western Circle and the Executive Engineer of the Cossye Division held a local inspection and they have fully realized the necessity of works like those indicated above being carried out. Let them do something promptly and earn the blessings of the afflicted people concerned.

Continuing, the paper writes that the recent floods in Contai and its neighbourhood have brought on almost famine conditions locally. Rice sells at seven seers for a rupee, and even that cannot always be had. Poor people are in a state of semi-starvation. And there is but little prospect of cultivation operations being undertaken now for the floods do not show any signs of subsiding within a few days.

(h)—General.

67. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 31st July says that it is becoming more and more plain every day that by the transfer of the Capital to Delhi, the Government of India is getting out of touch with the main current of public opinion. In its anxiety to remove the Capital in haste it did not consider the waste of public money which New Delhi would involve in its construction.

New Delhi and the waste of public money.

DAINIK BHARAT
MITRA,
July 31st, 1913.

68. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August fully agrees with the protest made by Mr. Heaton, Principal of the Sibpur Engineering College, against Indian youths being appointed to high posts in the Public Works Department directly from England. Government is requested to consider the matter.

Indians appointed as Engineers from England.

HITAVADI,
August 1st, 1913.

69. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August says that the Bengal Government Resolution on the Annual Report of the work of the Sanitary Commissioner and the Sanitary Board in Bengal is thoroughly disappointing. The interest which Lord Carmichael takes in the cause of health led people to hope that the death-rate will decrease in the country; but instead of decreasing it has increased. Strangely, the Sanitary Commissioner has made no effort to find out the cause of this increase. It is true that the reports of village chaukidars as regards the diseases which have caused deaths are altogether unreliable. But it should be the duty of the Sanitary Department to try to find out some other means of ascertaining the cause of the increase of the death-rate. As regards the decrease of the birth-rate, Government attributes it to the steady continuance of high prices. It is a pity, however, that no great effort is being made by the Government to bring down the prices. A Commission has enquired into the causes of the high prices for two years, and there is no knowing how long it will take the Government to consider the report of this Commission and take any active step in this matter.

The Annual Report of the Sanitary Department.

HITAVADI,
August 1st, 1913.

The birth-rate was higher in Eastern Bengal than in Western Bengal. This means that it was lower among Hindus than among Musalmans. This is alarming for the Hindu community.

Government has remarked that, on the whole, the health of Bengal was not much worse than the health of other parts of India. This, however, is no consolation. So long as the birth and death-rates are not established on a satisfactory footing, it will be wrong on the part of the Government to give up making strenuous efforts for improving sanitation.

Last year about 10 lakhs of people died of fever in Bengal. The disease was particularly virulent in the districts of Malda, Jalpaiguri and Dinajpur. In the Malda district, again, the death-rate from fever was enormously higher than in the previous five years. The Sanitary Department ought to have enquired into the cause of this, but it did not. The distribution of quinine had no effect in checking the death-rate. Government has promised to ask the Sanitary Commissioner to ascertain the cause of the increase of the death-rate in the Malda district.

It is a pity that last year the Municipalities in Bengal could not spend all the money which Government had placed at their disposal for carrying out sanitary improvements.

70. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 29th July writes:—

The partition of Midnapore.

"Last week (see paragraph 68 of the Report on Native papers for the 2nd August 1913) we pointed

NIHAR,
29th July 1913.

out that Government had resolved to split up Midnapore without having previously asked our opinion. We also suggested that if there was to be such a partition at all, Contai should be the head-quarters of the new district. We also pointed out that if Contai were the head-quarters, the Collector of the new district would have better opportunities of coming in close contact with the people of the two big subdivisions of Contai and Tamluk than if the new district head-quarters were at Kharagpur. And lastly we proved that the new headquarters at Contai would cost much less than at Kharagpur.

Discussing the question of cost in some detail, we may remark that the creation of a new district is admittedly a question of huge expense. But that is no reason why considerations of lesser cost and greater cost should be ignored. Nobody will object to the poor Indian tax-payers' money being spent on well-considered projects of public improvement. But in these days when so much money has been and is being spent on Ranchi and Delhi, Dacca and Patna, one must say that it is time to proceed with some circumspection. Perhaps at the outset there will be an estimate that the new head-quarters at Kharagpur will not cost more than 5 or 6 lakhs. But ultimately perhaps the actual outlay will come up to 25 or 30 lakhs. We understand that the original estimate for temporary Delhi was 20 lakhs, but already a crore has been spent and the work of building the new Capital is still unfinished.

The Bengal Government Resolution states that the various proposals for partitioning Midnapore made since 1836 all came to nothing because of paucity of funds. We do not know what reason Government has for thinking that its present financial condition is very sound. Then again, seeing that a project which has been held up for 70 years for financial reasons is now at last going to be executed, one naturally expected that Government would enter in the Resolution into a detailed estimate of the cost proposed to be incurred. Had such an estimate appeared, we could clearly prove that a new head-quarters at Contai would cost about one-third less than a new head-quarters near Kharagpur. We showed last week that at Contai Government would not have to spend anything so much as it would have to spend at Kharagpur on schools, colleges, dispensaries, District Board offices, etc. We fully believe that if the existing *Pulbandi* office is removed elsewhere and its buildings are utilised for the subdivisional office, the existing quarters of the Subdivisional Officer of Contai may in six months without any extra expense to speak of, be made to house the new offices of the Hijlee district.

So far as we can see, there is no chance in the near future of the new district having a District Judge of its own, so accommodation is required only for the Collector's offices. If the existing *Pulbandi* office is removed to some place west of Contai, one of the existing buildings housing it may have a second storey added, which may house the Subdivisional Officer of Contai. The two or three rooms in the lower storey may accommodate the Subdivisional offices. Again, the palatial two-storeyed mansion now housing the Subdivisional Officer may house the Collector in the upper storey, while the ground-floor and the surrounding buildings may accommodate the Collector's offices. We earnestly request the authorities to give this scheme their best consideration.

If the new head-quarters are to be built at Kharagpur, a new jail, a new thana and new office for the Superintendent of Police will have to be built there, as well as a new district Registry office and a Post and Telegraph office. But whence is money to come for building all these new offices? Even granting that there will be no difficulty about finding the money, it is inexplicable why a new station should be built at enormous expense on barren land overgrown with jungle, while there exist at Contai fine buildings which may be utilised for these purposes. The district is being split up for the good of the people. And since Government seeks the welfare of the people, it can never intend that inconvenience will be caused to the people for nothing. But it is our firm belief that if Kharagpur is to be the new head-quarters, lots of money will be spent there without justification—money which will be better spent on improving the water-supply all over the district and saving its population from the ravages of malaria. Indeed, we hold it unpopular to spend large sums in partitioning the district before that work has been taken in hand. If, however, it is held that such a partition must be effected, care should be taken to make the process as inexpensive as possible, regardless of all considerations of special

favour to any particular locality. On this ground we suggest that Contai rather than Kharagpur should be the new district headquarters.

If Kharagpur is selected, the mukhtears will for the first few years have to do without their mukhtearkhana and the pleaders without their Bar Library. For whence is money for these to come until some time elapses? So for the first few years lawyers and their clients must do their work under such shelter as the trees afford. Indeed it is very likely that for the first few years the clerks and lawyers will find it impossible even to find houses to accommodate themselves and their families. So it will be to the injury to the people of the district if Kharagpur is to be the new headquarters.

Of course if Contai is chosen to be the new district headquarters rather than Kharagpur, the inhabitants of Kharagpur thana may object. And if that objection is held valid, Kharagpur thana may be left as now subject to the Midnapore Sadar subdivision, and instead the new district may be compensated by the re-transfer of Panskura thana to the Tamluk subdivision. And if a new Dantan subdivision is created out of the Dantan, Narayangarh and Sabang thanas and that subdivision placed under the new Hijlee district, the arrangement ought to be satisfactory to all interests. Indeed in 1904 this was the scheme of partition recommended by the Divisional Commissioners in conference assembled at Darjeeling.

The area and population of the Hijlee district as proposed to be created by Government and as proposed by ourselves above will be the same in both cases. For the loss of Kharagpur thana is made up for by the gain of Panskura thana. The area and population of Midnapore district as it will exist after the creation of Hijlee district are not altered by our suggested exchange above of one thana for another.

As we have already said, the selection of Contai for the headquarters of the new district will not injure or inconvenience anybody. Government certainly has nothing to lose or suffer by its selection. A new district headquarters here will cost Government little and undeniably the Collector located here will have better opportunities of getting into touch with the people of Contai than if he resides at Kharagpur. At Contai he will keep good health and will therefore do more work for Government. Kharagpur, on the other hand, is only 6 miles from Midnapore town with which it is connected by rail. The Collector at Midnapore may very quickly go over to Kharagpur, if any necessity requires his presence there.

Then again, our scheme is calculated materially to benefit Dantan. The local public will be greatly pleased if they have a new subdivision created at Dantan. At present they have to travel all the way to Midnapore for all their criminal suits. For appeals from the new criminal and the existing civil courts at Dantan, the local people will have henceforth to travel to Contai instead of to Midnapore. Well, Contai is as far from Dantan as is Midnapore. If they now change trains at Kharagpur; they will henceforth change trains at Belda. Then again Dantan is socially connected with Contai. So this proposal is likely to be cordially welcomed by all sections of the Dantan public, and we hope they will soon send up petitions in numbers to Government praying that Contai be the new district head-quarters. So much for Dantan thana. As for Narayangarh, it is equally distant from Midnapore and Dantan, while the journey to Dantan does not involve a break of journey such as that at Kharagpur in travelling to Midnapore. From Sabang thana people travel to Midnapore *via* Balichak railway station. With a new subdivision at Dantan these people will take train at Narayangarh and travel to Dantan. For half of the population of Sabang thana, Narayangarh station would be nearer their homes than Balichak. And from Narayangarh station Dantan is only 18 miles distant, whereas the distance between Balichak and Midnapore is 23 miles with the attendant inconvenience of changing trains at Kharagpur. Lastly, it should be remembered that Contai subdivision begins from the southern boundary of Sabang thana and the whole population of Contai subdivision irrespective of age and sex will be glad of, and be benefited by, the selection of Contai town as the new district head quarters.

Nandigram thana was formerly under the Contai subdivision and the people there will be glad beyond measure to hear that they will be able to travel on foot to the new District Court at Contai. The people of Maslandpur

or Mahishadal and Satahata thanas also will suffer no inconvenience if Contai be the new district head-quarters. For there is easy communication by canal between Geonkhali and Contai town. Indeed steamers used to ply on this route in the past, affording water communication with Cuttack. Since the opening of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway this service of steamers has been discontinued. If Contai be the new district head-quarters the service will be partially revived and steamers will ply as far at least as Contai. This will benefit the steamer company concerned, and by augmenting the canal dues, benefit Government as well. Besides this water route there is a wide metalled District Board road between Tamluk and Contai, fit both for wheeled and pedestrian traffic. The new Hijlee District Board may well lay a light railway line on this road. For the majority of the inhabitants of Mahishadal and Satahata thanas, Contai town will be as distant as is Midnapore. So, too, the people of Tamluk and Panskura thanas will not suffer any special inconvenience. The people of Panskura will be able to travel to Contai by entraining at Belda, or they might use the steamers which in the future are certain to run between Kola and Contai. The people of Tamluk will use this latter means of conveyance. Indeed from most of the southern part of Tamluk thana people will find it easy to travel to Contai on foot.

From the point of social affinities also Contai, Tamluk and the proposed Dantan subdivision appears to be connected closely together. They are all tracts in which the Mahisyas predominate. There has always been the closest social and business relations among the people of these areas, and it is not likely that there will be any objection made by any people in these localities to the selection of Contai to be the new district head-quarters. Of course there may be an interested agitation against the selection of Contai got up by those people who are interested in the selection of Kharagpur. Such people are to be found amongst these struggling lawyers at Midnapore who hope for a change in their fortunes when a new district with a new Bar is set up. But we hope Government will ignore all such opposition and select Contai for the new head-quarters, if it has absolutely made up its mind to split up Midnapore, for this is the arrangement that will conduce to the happiness of the people. We pray to Lord Carmichael to abandon his idea of making Kharagpur the new district head-quarters and selecting Contai for the same purpose.

MEDINI BANDHAY,
July 28th, 1913.

71. The *Medini Bandhab* [Midnapore] of the 28th July has the following on the proposed partition of Midnapore:—

"The Government argues that the work of the district has become too heavy for the District Magistrate, so that he can spare very little time to move about among, and mix with, the people. The validity of this argument we are not prepared to admit, for the District Magistrate has now absolutely nothing to do with judicial work, however much that work may have increased in recent years. And as for land revenue work, the District Magistrate has to devote only a small fraction of his time to it, all that he has to do being to sign the returns and supervise the revenue sales. And this takes him about six hours every *kist* or 24 hours in a whole year. Next as regards Excise revenue, all work connected with it is practically done by the Excise Deputy Collector and the Excise Commissioner, the District Magistrate having only to spend some 10 or 15 minutes every year in attending the meetings of the Excise Committee. The same may be said regarding Road Cess work. It is not, therefore, at all correct to say that the District Magistrate is overworked."

PRANTAVASI,
August 1st, 1913.

72. The *Prantavasi* [Netrakona] of the 1st August prays that the head-quarters of the new district, which will be formed out of the Netrakona and Kishorganj subdivisions of the Mymensingh district, may be established at a central place between Bhairab Bazar and Durgapur instead of at Bhairab Bazar.

NAYAK,
August 2nd, 1913.

73. Referring to the recent debate in the House of Lords on the Indian Immigration Act passed by the Government of South Africa, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August says that the South African Government was

perfectly within its rights in passing the Act. The Australian Government refuses to admit Indians in Australia, but no one makes a fuss about it. Of course, the South African Government does not clearly say, like the Australian Government, that it will not admit any Indian. What prevents it from doing so is that it wants Indian labour. Under the circumstances, it is the duty of the Government of India to completely prevent emigration of Indian coolies to South Africa.

74. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 1st August draws the attention of the Government of India to the report that Indian coolies have been expelled from hospitals in the Malay States, and requests the Government to communicate with the Government of the States in this matter.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 1st, 1913.

75. The *Dacca Prakash* [Dacca] of the 27th July writes:—
Our kind-hearted Governor is ever anxious to get first hand information about the condition of the people over whom he rules, and that is why His Excellency is moving about from town to town and even visiting remote villages. Sympathy and generosity seem to be the key-note of His Excellency's administration. Lord Carmichael is showing a great interest in sanitation and education, and we take this opportunity to point out to His Excellency the real causes which have made Bengal an easy prey to epidemics, such as malaria, cholera, plague, small-pox, etc., which carry away thousands of people every year. The first of these causes is want of food, which by weakening the body makes a man incapable of resisting the attacks of disease. Time was when Bengal used to supply food to the whole world, but now she is in the perpetual grip of famine. The second reason why the sanitation of the province is so deplorable is the want of good drinking water. Anyone who has any idea about village life in Bengal knows what dirty water village people are compelled to drink. We heartily thank our Governor for the annual grant of Rs. 3,000 for the improvement of the water-supply in every district, which, although not enough for the want of the province, will no doubt be able to do some good.

DACCA PRAKASH,
July 27th, 1913.

76. Referring to the recent circular regarding the giving of presents to officials, the *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 30th July says that the Government should clearly state whether the presents given to officials at Christmas and New Year are forbidden also.

MURSHIDABAD
HITAISHI,
July 30th, 1913.

77. Referring to the marginally noted case the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd August writes:—
The High Court's judgment has made it quite clear that Bhola and his niece have been the victims of unjust oppression, and we are anxious to see what the Government does to punish the officials who are responsible for all the trouble and harassment which these two thoroughly innocent persons have suffered. It seems that a certain class of mufassal officials think nothing of illegally persecuting people who, however honest they may be, happen to incur their ill-will; for these mean officials know that they can do so almost with impunity. It is not often that the poor victims of their oppression can approach the High Court, and even if the High Court at last does justice to the men and censures the officials concerned, such censures do not affect them (the officials) at all so long as the Government in whose service they are, do not punish them for their misdeeds. In fact, if the Government takes no action in such cases they will go on increasing and the officials guilty of the mischief will naturally think that their acts are connived at by the Government. And why the officials alone, the public will also be led to hold such an erroneous idea. As it is, a class of Government officials in the mufassal generally take things from tradesmen without ever paying for them, and the idea that now exists in the mufassal is that shopkeepers are bound by law to supply things *gratis* to public servants. If a Sub-Inspector of Police comes to investigate a case, the complainant has to find him a good fat goat for his dinner even by borrowing money for the purpose. When a Deputy Magistrate or a District Magistrate goes on tour, his subordinates often force inoffensive villagers to supply him

BANGAVASI,
August 2nd, 1913.

DAILY URDU
HABUL MATIN,
July 30th, 1913.

with provisions gratis. These things are done quite openly, and it was high time that Government took severe measures to put an end to them.

78. The *Daily Urdu Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 30th July observes that Government by neglecting the Urdu, Hindi Vernacular papers and Government and other vernacular papers loses a great opportunity for properly knowing the thoughts and feelings of a large majority of its subjects. The officers of the Government are supported by Indian money, but they do not acquaint themselves sufficiently with a knowledge of Urdu and other Indian languages.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,
July 23rd, 1913.

79. A correspondent of the *Tripura Hitaiishi* [Comilla] of the 23rd July writes that in the past there used to be a day set apart each year on which a Raja gave audience to all his subjects who came up with humble offerings of respect. These were purely voluntary gifts which the people delighted in making to show their love for their rulers. Now-a-days things are all the other way. These voluntary offerings are now exacted as a tax, and all sorts of oppression are practised by the tax collectors in collecting it. Indeed these tax collectors are encouraged to exact as heavy sums as possible by being paid bonuses in proportion to their collections. Furthermore, the money thus exacted from the people is not spent on improving the rural water-supply or roads or other purposes which will benefit the people.

GRIHASTHA,
Asharh, 1320 B.E.

80. In an article under the heading "Social reform among Mahrattas," the *Grihastha* [Calcutta] for *Asharh*, 1320 B.E. (June and July 1913), refers to the proposal made in the *Modern World* by Mr. Bhajekar, a Mahratta gentleman, about inter-marriage between Bombay and Madras Brahmins, and observes that a similar thing should be introduced in Bengal among the different sub-castes of Brahmins and Kayasthas, as this would be of great help to the building up of a Bengali nation. The journal also commends the noble endeavours of Babus Sarada Charan Mitra and Brajendra Kishore Rai Chaudhuri in this direction.

DAILY URDU HABUL
MATIN,
August 1st, 1913.

81. The *Daily Urdu Habul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 1st August thanks Lord Morley for his expression of sympathy for Indian Moslem feelings and for the lucid way in which he outlined the future policy of Britain in Persia. This, in the opinion of the paper, is calculated to assuage the grief of Indian Moslems. It, however, notes with regret the studied silence of Lord Morley as regards Turkey.

NAYAK,
July 30th, 1913.

82. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 30th July writes:—
"The predicament of the country." *Vanoc* has recently written to the *Referee* saying that the various Indian provinces are seething with unrest and sedition; that the Sikhs in the Punjab are discontented, the Bengalis are crazy, the Moslems all over India are unsettled and have lost faith in Government and that the sepoys are in a state of manifest unrest. In response to these statements, the *Englishman* has said that India is now bubbling over with prosperity and her people are happy money-making, such unrest and discontent as exist are confined to the limited few who are wholly in the grip of Government. We, too, have been saying as much repeatedly. Why then do the howlings of a handful of Babus throw you off your mental balance? Why then do you train siege-guns to kill a few gnats? Who will answer these questions?

Anyway as the question has been raised we must speak out the truth unreservedly. We are bound to say that discontent does prevail among the people of India. The reasons we give clearly below:—

- (1) Village life is no longer a happy life. The villages are nurseries for all kinds of disease. Government does not or cannot take any adequate steps to remove those diseases.
- (2) The villages lack an adequate water-supply and a sound drainage system; these are wants felt by all villagers and Government

has not so far adopted, and is not going in the near future to adopt, any special measures to remove these grievances.

- (3) Thanks to the way the laws and regulations are being enforced, the administration is coming to be so repressive that every man in the country feels it. They do not discuss the justice or injustice of the acts of Government nor are they dissatisfied with its judicial and administrative system. They are fast losing patience because of the torment caused by the way they are despoiled by the subordinate officers, because of the heat reflected back from the sand, so to speak. Not so much of the seditious spirit is spread by the newspapers or by the speeches of the Babus as is caused among the people by the faulty conduct of the ill-paid subordinates, by the outrages of individual Police Constables and Darogas. Great good may be done if the ruling community is mindful of this point.

It is because we know these things that we once before appealed to our rulers to take steps to keep the people happy and free from anxiety. If that is done they will remain their humblest slaves. The money which has been spent on Dacca might have altered the whole face of Eastern Bengal. The money which is being spent on Delhi might have transformed the whole of Northern India. The money which is being spent and will be spent on Patna might have purged the whole of Bihar of all disease. All people can understand these things in the light here indicated, and that is why they get discontented.

Yet another point. People get incensed when they see that the attitude of the rulers is not consistent. People are bound to get angry if they see a class of the population who are favoured by the rulers at any one time subsequently treated with disfavour for any reason. This is always true in the case of India. Indians are pleased to hear straight talk and they get incensed to see the language of diplomacy indulged in. Let our rulers say plainly what rights they can grant to their subjects and what they cannot. The people will then know exactly the position they stand in and they will adjust their conduct to their circumstances.

The conduct of Moslems shows that that community is incensed. Indian Moslems, though subjects of Britain, are attached to the Sultan of Turkey. If there is a war between England and Turkey, Indian Moslems are bound to show their partiality for Turkey. Not only with Turkey, they would under similar circumstances display their bias towards the Amir of Kabul or the Shah of Persia. Yet Moslems are loyal subjects. Yet would an English Minister like Lord Morley call the Hindus loyal subjects, if they had been attached in the same way to the Maharaja of Nepal and had publicly manifested their support of that Hindu Kingdom? Certainly never. You have been favouring and petting Moslems ever since the days of Lord Lytton down to those of Lord Minto. Moslems have used this official favour shown to them to unify the entire Muhammadan community of India. So, if now Government seeks to put them down, it must find itself in some difficulty. We cannot say that Government did not find itself in a difficult situation in regard to the Turkish war. Those Hindus who have all along been in a state of annoyance caused by the conduct of individual Government servants are bound to make common cause with Moslems and give trouble. This is what we guess, for we know that Moslems have largely lost faith in Government for three reasons:—

- (1) Moslems lost faith in official assurances, when the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam was abolished.
- (2) With the British Capital transferred to Delhi, Moslems realize gradually that the old Delhi of which they were proud will certainly be wiped out.
- (3) Mr. Asquith's speech on the Turkish war has given offence to Moslems and the future of Persia as influenced by the Anglo-Russian Convention is causing them much anxiety.

One straightforward suggestion we shall make. Be straightforward in whatever you will do, do not try any diplomacy. The Hindus have no Power to help them but the English, so they are bound to be loyal to Britain. The Hindus have no Khalifa or Amir. You are the only Power they have to look to. So do not anger the Hindus, this is what we pray of you.

GRIHASTHA,
Asharh, 1320 B. E.

83. In an article under the heading, "The *Swadeshi* agitation," the *Grihastha* [Calcutta] for the month of *Asharh*, 1320 B. E. (June and July 1913) observes:—

The *Swadeshi* agitation.
"Since the *swadeshi* agitation was started, numbers of men have suffered in various ways. Some have been imprisoned, some transported to the Andamans, some deported, and some others again have had their houses searched by the police. But the true and honest *swadeshist* is now rarely to be found. We have still a number of *swadeshi* mills, but our young men now seldom use *swadeshi* cloths. One can find of an evening large numbers of youths walking about in the city wearing gaudy, English-made articles. And what wonder that they should do so, since the very men, who started the *swadeshi* and used to pose as the leaders of these young men, are now either busy currying favour with the Government or have left the country!

GRIHASTHA,
Asharh, 1320 B. E.

84. In the course of an article under the heading, "The Indian peasant," the *Grihastha* [Calcutta] for *Asharh*, 1320 B. E. (June and July 1913) laments the disappearance of the zeal which Bengali youths showed during the *swadeshi* agitation for the promotion of the arts and industries of India, and advises educated young men to work as volunteers in villages.

Swadeshi volunteers.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE;

The 9th August 1913.

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 32 of 1913.]

REPORT (PART II)

ON

INDIAN-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 9th August 1913.

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
List of Indian-owned English newspapers received and dealt with by the Bengal Intelligence Branch	531	(f) — Questions affecting the land—	
		Nil.	
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		(g) — Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation—	
The South-African question	533	Nil.	
Ditto ditto	534		
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.		(h) — General—	
(a) — Police—		A proscribed pamphlet	540
Nil.		The Cawnpore mosque riot	541
		Ditto ditto	ib.
		Ditto ditto	542
(b) — Working of the Courts—		The Governor's speech at Dacca	543
Defamation case against the <i>Suhrid</i> newspaper	535	Ditto ditto	ib.
The Howrah shooting incident	ib.	Ditto ditto	ib.
The Oudh execution case	536	The Malwar opium trade	544
		The European Defence Association	ib.
		The Moslem meeting at the Town Hall	545
		Domiciled Bengalis in Bihar	546
		Lord Crewe and the India Council	ib.
(c) — Jails—		III.—LEGISLATION.	
Nil.		Nil.	
		IV.—NATIVE STATES.	
(d) — Education—		Nil.	
The Calcutta University and the Government of India	537	V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.	
Menace to private medical education	ib.	Distress in Basirhat subdivision	546
A meeting of the private medical students	ib.		
Mr. Sharp and the Calcutta University	538	VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.	
(e) — Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—		Soiled Government currency notes	547
Reconstitution of the Calcutta Corporation	538	The Aga Khan on the Hindu-Muhammadan <i>entente</i>	ib.
The Bengal Sanitary Commissioner's report for 1912	539	Indian students in England	ib.
		Ditto ditto	548

220 23 53

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**LIST OF INDIAN-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH
BY THE BENGAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH.**

[As it stood on 1st July 1913.]

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Amrita Bazar Patrika"	Calcutta	Daily	Kali Prasanna Chatterji, age 48, Brahmin	1,400
2	"Bengalee" ...	Ditto	Do.	Surendra Nath Banarji and Kali Nath Ray.	4,500
3	"Hindoo Patriot"	Ditto	Do.	Sarat Ch. Ray, Kayastha, age 45 years	1,000
4	"Indian Empire"	Ditto	Weekly	Shashi Bhushan Mukharji, age 55 years, Hindu, Brahmin.	2,000
5	"Indian Mirror"	Ditto	Daily	Satyendra Nath Sen	1,200
6	"Indian Nation"	Ditto	Weekly	Sailendra Ghosh, Kayastha, age 39 years	800
7	"Indian World"	Ditto	Do.	Prithvis Ch. Ray	500 to 1,000
8	"Mussalman"	Ditto	Do.	A. Rasul and M. Rahman	1,000 to 1,500
9	"Reis and Rayyet"	Ditto	Do.	Jogesh Chandra Datta, age 62 years	350
10	"Telegraph"	Ditto	Do.	Satyendra Kumar Basu	1,200
11	"Herald"	Dacca	Do.	Priya Nath Sen	2,000
12	"East"	Do.	Bi-weekly	Banga Ch. Ray	200
13	"Calcutta Spectator"	Calcutta	Weekly	Lalit Mohan Ghosal	

LIST OF HINDUSTANI AND ENGLISH BOOKS
 IN THE LIBRARY OF THE
 [Name of the Library]

No.	Name of the Book	Author	Year
1	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
2	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
3	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
4	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
5	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
6	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
7	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
8	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
9	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
10	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
11	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
12	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
13	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590
14	"The History of Hindustan"	Abul Fazl	1590

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

865. On August 1st the South-African Immigration Bill became the

The South-African question.

law of the land, observes the *Benjales*, and the friends of India in the House of Lords, headed by

Lord Ampthill, entered a vigorous protest against its provisions. They invited the Imperial Government to suspend its operation until it was amended so as to be more satisfactory to the Indians in South Africa. That the feelings of the paper's countrymen in South Africa have been deeply stirred, and that they will not submit to it, has been abundantly proved by their attitude in relation to this measure. They have proclaimed their determination to renew the campaign of passive resistance; and past history has shown that they are past-masters in the art. Their organization is perfect—there is no sacrifice which they are not ready to make to vindicate their status as British subjects. Their firm determination has told upon English public opinion. Firm, unflinching resolution is the first and last condition of success in all political controversies. History proclaims the truth. Lord Ampthill's appeal to the Imperial Government to take immediate action was seconded by the highest Indian authorities in the House of Lords, by Lord Sydenham and Lord Curzon. There was absolute unanimity of sentiment on all sides of the House and among politicians who generally differed about most public questions. Lord Crewe admitted the legitimate soreness of the Indians at the disabilities imposed; but still he did not consider it advisable to refuse sanction to the Bill. This was small comfort to the Indians in South Africa or to their fellow-countrymen out here. To admit that the Indians in South Africa were subjected to serious racial disabilities and in the same breath to utter the hopeless cry of *non possumus* is a confession of Imperial impotence which has staggered all India. To refuse sanction to this Bill, so degrading to Indian self-respect, was clearly within the competence of the Imperial Government. Not to have exercised its legal right or enforced the most ordinary considerations of justice and fair treatment, was a plain abandonment of an obvious duty. That is how all India regards the action of the Imperial Government. A mere expression of sympathy will not do—a compliment, however well-merited, bestowed upon Mr. Gokhale will not satisfy Indian public opinion. Indians want deeds and not words, they want the enforcement of definite measures which will remove from our countrymen in South Africa disabilities which are exasperating to them and galling to our self-respect. The Imperial Government is the custodian of the rights of His Majesty's Indian subjects in all parts of the British Empire and indeed of the civilized world. The concession of self-government to any colony involves the full reservation of this right to the Imperial Government; and the opportunity was afforded for asserting it when the Immigration Bill was submitted to the Imperial Government for sanction. That Indians have been driven to passive resistance is due to the inaction of the Imperial Government. The colonists may have their own views upon the Bill. But the Imperial Government is bound to have a broader outlook and view colonial problems from the higher standpoint of Imperial interests. This is precisely the duty which Mr. Asquith and his Cabinet have not performed in regard to the Immigration Bill. Even the *Times* is impressed with the gravity of the situation. It charges Lord Gladstone and the Colonial Secretary with apathy and a want of proper appreciation of the state of things in South Africa, and hopes that a *modus vivendi* may be found which will allay the Indian opposition. The *Times* says that if the Ministers undertake to introduce the amending legislation next session the Indian leaders might allow the Act to be enforced without resisting. If the Union Ministers give such an undertaking, and if it is accepted by Mr. Gandhi and his friends in South Africa, that may save the situation. But will such an undertaking be given? It can only be given if the Imperial Government insists upon it. In the meantime Indians will watch the progress of events in South Africa with intense interest. They feel that the question deeply affects them. Are Indians to be treated outside India as British subjects, or as hewers of wood and drawers of water, with the stigma of an inferior political status branded on our brows?—That is the question of questions which is at issue.

BENGALURU.
2nd Aug. 1913.

INDIAN EMPIRE.
8th Aug. 1913.

866. The *Indian Empire* writes:—"The British prestige has been

The South-African question.

deservedly raised so high all the world over that the person of an Englishman is forced to be recognized as a sacred one by all nations, civilized or uncivilized. Dare to touch his white skin, not to say deprive him of his liberty for an offence or no offence by any independent State, and forthwith battalions of the army will march into the same, and in the twinkling of an eye, short and swift reprisals will follow. Naturally we are proud to become the subjects of such an all powerful nation as the English. We are time to time beguiled by responsible Ministers of England with the epithets as fellow-subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor along with the Englishmen. We become proud of our high position and try to assert, when occasion arises, the same treatment from others. Then and then only our degraded and lowly position becomes manifest; and naturally when buffeted and kicked in succession, we resound the world with howls and lamentations. That is our position with the world's independent States, but our relations with dominions under the subjection of the British *Raj* are expected naturally to be of a different and better kind for obvious reasons, but unfortunately there we are served the same, if not worse. Indian labour is held in high consideration by English colonists all along the line, but the labourers are treated with scant courtesy as they are mere 'coolies.' Indian labour is cheap; also the labourers are hard-working, law-abiding, God-fearing lots, who, as a rule, are never addicted to grog, like the scum of European people. Hence they are in requisition by the English planters in all parts of the world. They, by sacrificing even their lives, made them prosperous in their trade; they converted jungly tracts into smiling, valuable ones. And for all these troubles, they are treated as dogs and cats, when occasion arises. Canada is an English-governed colony, called Dominion, which was only 15 to 20 years before in most parts a wilderness. The Prime Minister, Mr. Laurier, had invited people of other parts of the world to migrate and settle there as farmers, for which special concessions were offered as inducements of all kinds. As a result, overcrowded Europe and also America had sent in such numbers that the authorities were obliged to withdraw some of the advantages, and also raise the quality and standard of the immigrants. At the outset, immigration agents were let loose all the world over to draw the desirable sorts of men to Canada to settle; to such extent that they invaded India as well. The result was that the retired and pensioned-off Sikh soldiers, the most adventurous amongst them, deceived by the rose-coloured descriptions of the manifold advantages held out by such wily agents had migrated to Canada. In spite of many delusive promises, most of them did thrive and prosper in the land of their adoption, so much so that their competitors from other lands became jealous of their hard-earned prosperity. Then the persecutions in real earnest were set in against them in conjunction with the authorities there. Criminal prosecutions, imprisonment, fine, deportation became their share almost daily. Constitutional agitation, memorials by scores, prayers to the Home authorities had no effect. Their well-proven loyalty to the Throne, scars and medals as marks of their hundred and one battles fought in India and abroad on behalf of the 'Sarkar' did not help them in the least. In sheer desperation, they as a last resort had sent a deputation to India—to their brethren here—to devise means to save them from their perilous position. The long-fought-of battles and colossal sacrifices made in liberty and money by our unfortunate countrymen in South Africa, instead of having improved their position, made it worse. The historic visit of our esteemed countryman, Mr. Gokhale, has been heralded as the beginning of a new era of improvement in their fates. But in the face of solemn promises, the responsible Ministers of the Union Government there, for the second time, have broken faith, which necessitates the presence of Mr. Gokhale in India to devise means to protect their interest with the help of the Government of India. Whatever progress has been made in regard to their status for which solemn pledge has been recorded was due to passive resistance,—the only effective weapon in their hands. The following startling figures will show what it had cost them to keep up the movement. One year's quotation will suffice for our purpose. The greatest suffering marked the path of the struggle in 1911. Some 2,700 sentences of imprisonment were passed, hundreds of families broken up, and heavy pecuniary

loss was inflicted in numerous cases. This Bill has further embittered the position of our countrymen than hitherto. The existing Provincial legislation provides for an appeal even to the Privy Council against the decision of exclusion. Under the present law, Immigration Boards are set up which alone have the right to hear appeals. No test is provided to which immigrants may conform. 'Any person or class of persons deemed by the Minister on economic grounds or on account of standard or habits of life to be unsuited to the requirements of the Union or any particular Province thereof, is declared to be a prohibited immigrant.' This clause is no doubt arbitrary in all conscience. Another clause in the Bill is worse than the above—a cruel piece of legislation unparalleled in the annals of law-making. Freedom throughout the Union formed an essential condition of the compromise. Under the Bill, the right of Cape or Transvaal Indians to enter Natal, and of Transvaal or Natal Indians to enter the Cape, is restricted, and an inseparable bar against admission is set up in the Orange Free State. In this way was defeated the very object of the passive resistance struggle. True it is, General Botha and his colleagues had tried to pass legislative enactments in conformity to the pledges given. That they were coerced into passing one, quite a different one in scope, by General Hertzog and his party,—the greatest enemies of the Indians, is also true. But that does not absolve him and his party to break faith with Indians, to ride roughshod over the pledges to please his friends. Whatever may be the present deplorable condition of the Indians, if there be God above and justice on their side, they are sure to come out of the struggle victorious in the end!"

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

867. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* observes that in the defamation case brought by Babu Satish Chandra Sen, B.L., of Perozepur, against Babu Ram Charan Pal, editor of the *Suhrid* newspaper, the latter was convicted and sentenced to one year's simple imprisonment besides a fine of Rs. 150. An appeal having been preferred, it came to be heard before the Sessions Judge of Barisal on the 24th July. The Judge rejected the appeal, confirming the conviction and sentence of the lower court. The case, the paper understands, will go on appeal to the High Court and so it withholds its comment upon it, but would, however, refer to a painful incident that happened in the court, when the Judge passed his orders. The journal's Barisal correspondent, who was present in court, thus describes it:—"I was present in court during the trial both the days. At the close of his address, Babu Suresh Chandra Talukdar, pleader for the accused, most feelingly prayed for mercy for the old and worn-out editor. But the appeal did not soften the Judge. On the other hand, he spoke to the following effect: 'I have no mercy for the man. He still tries to justify his writing and does not apologize, so I shall teach him a lesson. I will uphold the sentence.' Then, addressing the peshkar, he said: 'Do not allow him to leave the court. I will send him to prison to-day.' And he actually did so. Needless to say that those who were in court were simply dumbfounded at this exhibition of temper on the part of the District Judge. Another strange incident in connection with the affair is that the judgment was not delivered till the editor had passed three days in the jail." It may be mentioned that the District Judge of Barisal was formerly at Faridpur, and while there, some of his extraordinary feats filled the people with consternation.

868. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks that the judgment in the Howrah shooting case has been read by the paper with mingled feelings. In the first place, it is always for light punishment and it is glad the accused has been treated with leniency. The more so as no one ever thought it to be a deliberate act of the accused. All the same, the same degree of criminality does not attach to all cases of accidental deaths caused by human agency. It varies with varying degrees of negligence, want of forethought and circumspection, etc., characterising the conduct of the accused. Judged according to this standard, the

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
2nd Aug. 1913.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
7th Aug. 1913.

act of the accused does not seem to be such an unavoidable and inevitable piece of accident as the special pleading of the Magistrate on his behalf would lead one to believe. It was not a toy gun the accused was handling. It was a rifle and loaded with a deadly bullet. Nor was it towards the eternity of interplanetary space or vast blank of the limitless ocean that he fired his shot, with no earthly chance of its striking a living mortal. On the other hand, he, as the manager of a mill of the locality and a grown-up man of average intelligence, was expected to know full well that the bullet from his gun had every chance of hitting one of the coolies who worked regularly on the railway line in that very direction. If, even in spite of such a risk he chose to fire his Saloon rifle, and that in the indulgence of a mere pastime, he is certainly not the innocent Adam he is painted in the judgment. Fancy even the *Statesman* characterises the sentence as "an obviously lenient one" and the act of the accused is one of "gross carelessness." The judgment, indeed, affords in one sense, queer reading. It is conspicuous for its heartlessness and heartfulness. While the accused, who took away, however unwittingly, the life of an unsuspecting fellow-mortal in the indulgence of a mere pastime, is inundated with sympathy and credentials, not a drop of regret or sympathy is sprinkled on the poor victim. The Court has no doubt awarded Rs. 100 (out of the fine of Rs. 150 inflicted on the accused) as compensation to the son of the deceased. But is that enough? The deceased coolie's average earnings must have amounted to Rs. 15 a month at the lowest estimate, and at least ten years' income, i.e., Rs. 1,800, ought to have been awarded to his destitute family as compensation, especially as the accused is being reinstated in his post. Judging from the claims for damages ordinarily made in such cases by persons who can afford to fight in a court of law, this estimate seems by no means to be an exorbitant one. Surely the value of a life of a human being, though a "native," must be more than Rs. 100. The paper is told, in this connection, that the accused "has already done something towards compensating the family of the deceased." These so-called accidental deaths of Indians from guns handled by Europeans are becoming rather a bit too frequent. It is due no doubt to the too long tether allowed to the Europeans to handle guns with the utmost recklessness and impunity, sometimes with disastrous consequences, as in the present case. Prevention is always better than cure, and unless adequate and strict preventive measures are resorted to, these accidental deaths will have a tendency to repeat themselves too often to deserve that qualifying word any longer. Before the journal concludes its comments on this case, it wishes to enquire why the prosecution in this case was conducted by a Court Sub-Inspector and not by the Government Public Prosecutor, as is the rule in such grave cases?

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA.
8th Aug. 1913.

869. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the full text of the correspondence, the publication of which Reuter has just announced, on the Oudh execution case, is no doubt awaited with eager curiosity by all parties in India. In the meantime, the extracts of it quoted by him show that Sir J. Hewett sticks to his guns and does not admit having committed anything in that connection for which he need be sorry or ashamed. On the other hand, he seeks to turn the tables on his Parliamentary critics. But the question is, why did Sir John put the unfortunate men on their second trial, when they had been acquitted by a competent court with the help of two assessors? No doubt, he was within his legal rights to do so, but even in the name of law, it is possible to do an act repugnant to humanity. The other point is, why did he not send up the prisoners' petition for mercy to the Government of India? Why did he not give the condemned men their last chance of saving themselves from the gallows? His explanation has not yet seen the light of day, but evidently it has not satisfied even Lord Crewe who, while defending him, adheres to his former opinion that Sir John Hewett should have suspended the execution and referred the matter to the Supreme Government. Lord Crewe no doubt has taken precious good care to wreath the rod of criticism with plenty of roses, but that is his peculiar way of wriggling out of an embarrassing position. His Lordship proved that an autonomous government was never promised to Bengal. Similarly, in His Lordship's opinion, Sir John was both right and wrong.

(d)—Education.

870. The letter which the Senate of the Calcutta University has addressed to the Government of India, writes the *Mussalman*, on the subject of the appointment of University lecturers, has, the paper hopes, convinced all fair-minded people that there was no irregularity on the part of that body, which needed condonation at the hands of the Supreme Government, but it is rather the Government of India which, by its procrastination, has hampered the business of the University so far as some of its post-graduate lectures are concerned. It has been very clearly shown that the Senate did faithfully follow the practice in vogue since 1908 in submitting its nominations for lectureships and that the Government of India, by vetoing three of the appointments after a long period of nine months, has created a situation embarrassing to the University. Never was power so imprudently exercised as in the present case. A rumour is afloat that on receipt of this letter the redoubtable Mr. Sharp on behalf of the Government of India has just sent a reply to the Senate, refusing reconsideration of its decision to veto the appointment of the three lecturers. The journal has yet to hear many things about the legal aspect of the powers of the Government of India over the Calcutta University, and it waits to see what follows.

871. The *Bengalee* has come across a communication of a very important character which has been issued by the Home Department of the Government of India. It will seriously affect private medical institutions and private medical practitioners who have obtained diplomas from such institutions. The circular-letter says:—"The Governor-General, however, considers that it is now possible to take a step further and to proceed by means of a General Act to prohibit all institutions not affiliated to any University nor recognized by the Government from granting any medical degrees which bear colourable resemblances to registerable qualifications and, further, to prohibit individual practitioners from advertising that they hold such degrees." If this were done, the paper fears a serious blow would be aimed at private medical education which, on the whole, is doing useful work. In a great country like India quackery cannot be suppressed. In the remote parts of the country the village barber is still the surgeon-general and the self-styled *kaviraj* the physician-in-chief. The students who pass out of the private medical institutions, although their qualifications may not come up to the high standard of the University, are steadily superseding the village barber and the village *kaviraj*. And it would be a disastrous thing if the Government were to legislate on lines that would bring about the extinction of this class of practitioners. The medical institutions provided by Government are wholly unequal to meet the demands of the country. These private medical institutions supplement their work, though perhaps it may be in a less efficient manner. So long as Government is not able to provide medical institutions suited to the extensive requirements of the country, it is its plain duty to help and encourage the private medical institutions. But the proposal referred to will, the journal fears, have a wholly opposite effect.

872. A largely attended meeting of the students of the private medical institutions of Calcutta, writes the *Bengalee*, was held at the University Institute last Tuesday evening under the presidency of Dr. N. N. De to protest against the contemplated legislation in connection with private medical education. The spacious hall of the Institute was filled to its utmost capacity, though the meeting was very poorly advertised and imperfectly organised. But the alarm and anxiety of the students knew no bounds. One young man hailing from the distant Andhra country spoke very feelingly and expressed the common alarm and concern in the following words:—"The hair of many of us has turned grey in one night, we cannot make up our minds as to what to do, whether to sell our books, shut down our 'messes,' and go back to our native places to ruminate on our sad lot." The expression of concern that was plainly visible on the faces of the hundreds of young men that gathered at the meeting deeply affected the visitors present. The paper does not know

MUSLIMAN,
1st Aug. 1913.

BENGALUR,
5th Aug. 1913.

BENGALUR,
7th Aug. 1913.

whether these young men have got the sympathy of the medical profession or not. The students could not persuade any distinguished medical man to preside over their deliberations. Whatever might be the attitude of the profession towards the impending change, the public at any rate are deeply interested in it; for it is they who would ultimately be the losers by the abolition of these private medical institutions which promise to send medical help to the darkest interior. In the medical profession it is experience that counts, and here even little learning when backed by experience does not bring the proverbial danger in its train.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA
7th Aug. 1913.

873. The *Amrita Basar Patrika* observes that in an evil moment did Mr. Sharp indite his fateful letter disqualifying the three University lecturers on the queer ground of their having "taken a prominent part in

politics." Not only has the whole country been agitated to its innermost depths over the new and dangerous policy sought to be inaugurated by it, but, what is no less deplorable, it has paved the way for quite a number of litigations. The other day the paper referred to the probability of a suit for wrongful dismissal being instituted by Mr. Rasul against the Calcutta University. And now it has a regular notice of an action for defamation served by the Hon'ble Dr. Suhrawardy's attorney on Mr. Sharp, wherein the latter has given out that his client means to claim damages to the tune of Rs. 50,000 if suitable apology is not offered. The journal published the notice in its issue of 6th August 1913, and it says all reasonable minds must share with it the deepest regret that an ill-advised action of a Government Secretary should be the signal for an unseemly wrangle in a court of law which will end, in any case, in thousands of the poor tax-payers' money being frittered away. It is against the declared policy of the Government—as of all civilized Governments—to foster litigation. That policy is indeed reflected in several of the legislative enactments of the country, and the people of the country are often condemned for their tendency to indulge in litigation. Is it not, then, an irony of fate that a department of the Government itself should, however unwittingly, convert itself into an instrument fostering litigation? The paper has yet to see if better counsels will prevail and the threatened scandal will be nipped in the bud by the withdrawal of Mr. Sharp's letter.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

MUSSALMAN,
1st Aug. 1913.

874. It is a matter for gratification, the *Mussalman* writes, that in deference to public opinion the Government of Bengal has found it necessary to take steps to reconstitute the Corporation of Calcutta and has issued a resolution formulating a scheme of reforms and inviting all public bodies and individuals concerned to express their views thereon. The number of Commissioners is proposed to be raised from 50 to 75 and that of elected Commissioners from 25 to $37 + 9 = 46$. Thirty-seven are proposed to be representatives of wards ($25 + 12$ extra members for the most populous wards) and 9 to be special representatives of the Muhammadans. On the subject of the representation of the Muhammadan community three questions arise, says the Resolution: first, whether the Muhammadan community should be allowed separate representation; secondly, whether in such an event representatives of the Muhammadan community should be elected by the general body of ward electors or by Muhammadans only; and thirdly, whether, if granted separate representation, the Muhammadans should be allowed to vote at the general elections for the wards. It is to be remembered that there are at present 25 elected Commissioners and that at the last election only one Muhammadan gentleman was returned, and that from a ward in which there was no contest. It has often been pointed out that under the existing conditions Muhammadans have scarcely any chance of securing their due share of representation on the Corporation, and it is only fair and equitable that there should be special provision for their due representation. Two suggestions, says the Resolution, have been put forward for Muhammadan representation—one that it should be a mere minimum representation, intended only to secure that the Muhammadan

community should not be altogether unrepresented, and based merely on the strength of its voting power, while the other aims at giving the community that degree of representation which, upon the whole, it might expect in view not merely of its voting power but of its numbers, wealth, and degree of advancement. The latter suggestion is, in the paper's opinion, the better of the two, and this it hopes, will be accepted. Muhammadans form 25.6 per cent. of the total population of Calcutta, but the percentage of Muhammadan votes to the total voting power is only 8.1. The journal is glad that Government has already realized that a definite measure of representation would be preferable to a totally inadequate minimum with no expectation of any additions thereto, but do not know what the non-Moslem communities would say to this proposal for special representation of the Muhammadan community, but the journal hopes those who can understand that Muhammadans are adversely affected by the present system of election and desire to bring about concord and amity between Hindus and Muhammadans will not oppose it, but rather support it whole-heartedly.

875. The *Amrita Basar Patrika* observes that the Bengal Sanitary Commissioner's report for 1912 is a most melancholy study in all conscience. It shows how cruelly is the population of Bengal being decimated, principally by fever and cholera, and how these two preventable diseases are getting more firmly rooted in the land and extending their deadly havoc more and more widely both to towns and rural areas. The Sanitary Commissioner records the fact that 1,349,779 deaths were reported during 1912 against 1,221,580 in the preceding year, and remarks: "Thus 128,199 more deaths occurred during the year under review than in 1911, this being chiefly due to the severe prevalence of cholera and fever." The birth-rate shows only a slight increase, 1,600,035 births being registered during the year as compared with 1,585,187 in 1911. This small excess of births over deaths, however, did not mean much, for infantile mortality was very high, as many as 182,258 male infants and 157,521 female infants having died during the first year of their existence, representing a loss of 22.6 and 20.34 per cent. of the births respectively. It is, the paper thinks, not difficult to account for this frightful mortality among infants. Children born of parents whose constitution has been shattered by disease and semi-starvation must die in large numbers during their infantile stage. The main remedy for infant mortality thus lies in making the people more healthy, which means they should be provided with better and more sufficient food, as well as more improved sanitation than they enjoy now. During 1911 the agricultural outturn was satisfactory, "but," to quote from the report, "this did not lead to any fall in the prices, which were high everywhere without exception." In other countries when agricultural conditions are good, articles of food become cheaper. But, in this unfortunate land, a different state of things obtains. Here prices mount up in spite of bumper harvests. If they were high last year they are higher now; and judging from the destruction of jute and rice crops in many districts, owing to the excess of rainfall, they will rise still higher this year. The alarming news comes from Barisal that Bakarganj, the granary of Bengal, is threatened with a famine! The Sanitary Commissioner says that this high level of prices of food-grains "may not prove prejudicial to public health, but it is more than likely to arrest the natural growth of population, and it is feared that the birth-rate will be lower during 1913." The remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner seem to us to be paradoxical. If it is admitted that high prices retard the increase of the birth-rate, it must then be admitted that they also affect public health prejudicially. High prices mean starvation to the bulk of the population who are extremely poor, and starvation undermines the physical constitution and causes various kinds of diseases. Therefore, public health is bound to be affected injuriously by a rise in the prices of food-grains. The Sanitary Commissioner's admission that the natural growth of the population will be retarded by high prices confirms the fact, universally known in Bengal but not officially admitted, that the Bengali race is gradually dying out. As stated above, fever and cholera annually kill the vast majority of the population in Bengal. The total mortality from cholera during 1912 was

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
2nd Aug. 1913.

considerably higher than in the previous year, and amounted to 95,467 against 67,750, the average of the five years 1907—11 being 111,491. Excluding Darjeeling, where it was almost a negligible factor, it prevailed more or less severely in every district, and was present in 478 out of 487 registering circles. Last year the percentage was 72, the total number of deaths amounting to 959,198 against 882,276 during 1911, the average of the five years 1907—11 being 931,961. The Sanitary Commissioner's report as well as the Government Resolution based upon it has at last admitted the fact that the means hitherto adopted to check the progress of malaria at the instance of sanitary experts have proved a total failure. To quote from the Resolution: "The Governor in Council is also disappointed to find that despite the employment of Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the distribution of quinine in the districts of Nadia and Murshidabad there has been no diminution in fever mortality, but the reverse." Again: "The various anti-malarial measures that have been undertaken throughout the province have so far been unproductive of any real permanent advantage, and in many places they have been discontinued. The clearance of jungle and tanks and the destruction of mosquitoes have not proved successful measures." When at the time of their inauguration, the paper pointed out the utter uselessness of these measures, the Anglo-Indian papers like the *Statesman*, the *Pioneer*, etc., following in the wake of the *Indian Medical Gazette*, fell foul of the *Anrita Bazar Patrika*. The journal wonders what they will say now when the Government itself has exploded the mosquito and the quinine theories! Strangely enough, the Government, in spite of its confession that quinine treatment has utterly failed, has not yet been able to outgrow its love for it. For it says in the Resolution, after expressing its disappointment at the unsatisfactory result from the distribution of quinine,—“a more extended use of quinine seems, on present knowledge, the only method by which it is possible to reduce the rate of mortality.” That is, because the quinine treatment has failed, therefore it is the sovereign remedy for malaria! The author of the Resolution, when writing it, was apparently reading *Gil Blas* with close attention. For the reader may remember, the doctor in that famous Spanish novel resorted to a similar method in treating his patients, with this difference, that while he urged blood-letting on an extensive scale, the author of the Resolution recommends “a more extended use of quinine,” the result, however, being the same in both cases,—more and more deaths of the people subjected to such treatment!

(h)—General.

MUSSALMAN, I
1st Aug. 1913.

876. The *Mussalman* observes that the Government of India as well as some of the Provincial Governments, including the Government of Bengal, have declared the pamphlet entitled “Come over into Macedonia and help us,” which was reproduced in full in the *Mussalman* by instalments, to be forfeited to His Majesty, on the ground that it contains words that “are likely to bring into hatred or contempt certain classes of His Majesty's subjects in British India.” A perusal of the pamphlet does no doubt excite righteous indignation and brings the perpetrators of the atrocities, the Bulgarians and their former Allies, into hatred, but the journal fails to see how the Balkan Christians have become “His Majesty's subjects in British India” and how section 12, sub-section (1), of the Press Act of 1910 is applicable in the present case. The paper began reproducing the pamphlet in its issue of the 16th May last and finished it in its issue of the 20th June. Other papers too reproduced it. If it contained words calculated to bring into hatred or contempt any class of His Majesty's subjects in India, and if it was the object of the pamphlet to produce that effect, its mission was already done, and it was nothing short of ridiculous on the part of the Government of India to have come forward so late as the third week of July with an order for the forfeiture of the copies thereof to His Majesty. Strange are the ways of the gods of Simla! Moreover, if a pamphlet containing words calculated to bring the Bulgarians into hatred—Bulgarians following the religion of the British people—is to be confiscated, why should not books and tracts in which the Turks have been abused right and left, in which they have been held up to execration—Turks

who follow the same religion with a large number of His Majesty's subjects—be forfeited to His Majesty on the same ground? Indians have learnt the language of their rulers, have learnt their arts and sciences; in short have been able not only to learn from them many branches of knowledge but also to master them, but have failed to follow their logic.

877. The *Mussalman* writes that the Government of Sir James Meston has issued a press *communiqué* to explain to the public that the demolition of an integral part of the Machlibazar mosque at Cawnpore, sanctioned by Sir James Meston himself, was no sacrilege and that it was justifiable. The contention of the United Provinces Government is that a small building which projected from the eastern wall of the mosque has been removed and that it was not sacred inasmuch as, when the Chairman of the Board went to visit the building, "the Muhammadans," says the *communiqué*, "who accompanied him entered it with shoes on." The Moslem version is, however, a different one. Mr. Muhammad Ali, of the *Comrade*, in his letter dated the 9th June last, addressed to Sir James Meston, said: "The statement of the Cawnpore gentlemen, if correct, throws a curious light on the way in which the Collector of the district is procuring proof of the fact that the portion which the Chairman of the Municipality desires to demolish is not part of the mosque. They state that Mr. Tyler without asking anyone went into this portion of the mosque with shoes on, and on his return said that had this been a part of the mosque they would have stopped him from doing so." If this is true, the public are to judge what weight is to be attached to the statement made by the United Provinces Government that the Muhammadans entered the place with their shoes on. It is obvious that the local authorities are using every endeavour to show that the portion demolished is not sacred and it is not unlikely that stories are being got up in support of their view. It is only the Mussalman Ulama and theologians who are competent to express any opinion as to whether the demolished building was sacred or not, and it is a pity that the Collector of Cawnpore and the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces have taken a view different from that of Moslem theologians. At a meeting of Ulama and others held in Calcutta on Sunday, the 20th ultimo, Maulana Abdul Haq Haqqani, the present Head Maulvi of the Calcutta Madrassa, who is at least no less an authority on the subject than Sir James Meston, declared the demolition as a sacrilege, and it remains to be seen what opinion the Government of India holds in face of such a declaration on the part of a man than whom there is scarcely any other person more competent to speak on the subject. The Government of Sir James Meston is trying to belittle the agitation and says: "There seems little doubt that the local Bisatis who are trustees of the mosque would have accepted this reasonable settlement of their case some time ago if pressure had not been brought to bear upon them from outside to resist any settlement." The paper protests against the insinuation made by the United Provinces Government that the agitation has been engineered from outside and that there was no local feeling in regard to the matter. That the demolition had to be carried out with the help of armed police is an unmistakable proof of the fact that the feeling was intense and that there might have been resistance if there was no armed force. By doing this the local authorities stand self-condemned, and it is a pity that the Government of Sir James Meston has now come forward to prove that the agitation is not genuine. The journal appeals to the Government of India to be awake to its duty and responsibilities, and to take into consideration the serious situation created at Cawnpore, and trusts that the necessary reparation will be made without any further delay.

878. Most sensational details are to hand regarding the Cawnpore mosque riot, writes the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. It is very unfortunate that, almost at the time the Moslems here were assembled at the Town Hall and discussing measures to advise Government with a view to avert any crisis, the first instalment of that very crisis should be happening at Cawnpore. Fancy scores of unarmed human beings, including some perfectly innocent bystanders, have been shot down over such a thing as the demolition of a part of a building. Of course, the

MUSSALMAN,
1st Aug. 1913.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
5th Aug. 1913.

Magistrate might have acted within the letter of the law in ordering the police to fire on the mob. But, then, would it not have been a thousand times better if this deplorable loss of human lives could have been prevented? It was not the sudden outburst of fanaticism of a band of ruffians that brought about such a crisis. On the other hand, the cloud has long been brewing which a little considerate and tactful handling on the part of the authorities could have nipped in the bud. The authorities knew that, what with a number of untoward events, from the Turkish war down to the demolition of a portion of the Cawnpore mosque, the minds of the Moslem community in general, and of those of Cawnpore in particular, had been in a ferment. Even such a staunch Conservative as Sir Roper Lethbridge publicly condemned the other day the unwisdom of trifling with the feelings of the loyal Muhammadan millions of India. Above all, there is the noble and declared policy of British rule in India of respecting the religious feelings of the different Indian communities. If, after this, such a catastrophe as is now deplored could not be prevented, the paper is forced to the conclusion that there must have been some indiscretion or tactlessness or some indifference to that policy somewhere. Time alone will show what quarter deserves the blame and in what measure. It will no doubt be said that obstinate rioters ought to be fired on and also hauled up subsequently under the law. But is that enough in such cases where the religious sentiments of a body ordinarily loyal have been so sorely agitated, and that apparently for no fault of theirs? If even such cases were to be dealt with according to the strict letter of the law, then what was the necessity for Her late Majesty to have made the historic declaration about respecting the religious scruples of the people—a declaration which is at once the chief asset of the people and the strongest pillar of the British Empire in India? Authorities who have to tackle problems like the present have two weapons—one the noble declaration mentioned above, and the other, the provisions about putting down rioting. By handling the one wisely, sympathetically and judiciously the ugliest of situations can be nipped in the bud, whereas by being indifferent to the one and only thinking of and rigorously plying the other, a preventable shedding of human blood is the result, though it may be justified under the letter of the law. Subsequent enquiries alone should enlighten the public as to how far the authorities at Cawnpore dealt with the situation with an eye to both the weapons.

BENGALER,
8th AUG. 1913.

879. The *Bengalee* observes that the interview between Mr. Muhammad Ali, editor of the *Comrade* and the *Hamdard*, and a representative of the Associated Press, has elicited certain facts regarding the Cawnpore mosque affair, which leave no doubt that the *sid* of the local authorities was at the bottom of the whole trouble. Why did they rush the matter when a few days later the appointed conference with the Lieutenant-Governor could have led to a peaceful settlement of the question? The mosque ought to have been kept intact till then. It was the clearest duty of the executive to wait till the head of the province, who had interested himself in the matter, had heard all sides and come to a final decision. The city of Cawnpore would not have gone to the dogs if the question were kept pending for a month or two. On the contrary, when the religious feeling of such a large and important section of His Majesty's subjects was concerned, and that at a time when there were other exciting causes at work, it was a great error to have gone against the popular wishes. The local authorities have tried their best to shift the responsibility on to other shoulders than those on which it should be rightly laid. The paper has heard of outside pressure, ill-feeling between Hindus and Muhammadans, and other official persiflage in this connection. But Mr. Muhammad Ali has made it clear that he and his colleagues have all along exercised their influence in the interests of peace, and that but for their strong advice to abstain from anything unconstitutional, matters might have been precipitated on the very day of the demolition of a part of the mosque. As for the attempt to father it on Hindu-Muhammadan feeling, Mr. Muhammad Ali said that the Hindu Commissioners of the local Municipality had fully supported the Muhammadans in their attempt to save the mosque. As to the recent riot, the distinguished Muhammadan leader is quite at one with the paper that the local authorities tempted fate by inadequate police arrangements and somewhat needless and premature anxiety for

the vindication of the dignity of the State. The journal learns on the authority of Mr. Muhammad Ali that the sanctity of the whole of the buildings of the mosque is beyond all question, and the practice of keeping shoes on or taking them off is only one of convention with the Muhammadans. On the whole, the local authorities have put themselves in the wrong, and a little tactfulness on their part would have saved the situation.

880. The *Indian Mirror* remarks that it is clear that the excitement among the Muhammadan community over the matter of the Machlibazar mosque at Cawnpore, is greatly due to outside agitators. It is difficult to understand, for example, why Muhammadans in other provinces should hold meetings in connection with the affair. The course which some of the Muhammadan leaders is following is inexpedient and unwise in the extreme, and the paper hopes, in the interests of the Muhammadan community itself, that better counsels will prevail, and that the best Muhammadan influence will be on the side of public order and peace.

881. The speech of Lord Carmichael at the Durbar has naturally given rise to mixed feelings, writes the *Herald*. His Excellency's observations with regard to Dacca have greatly disappointed the people, and their net effect is to create the belief that it will be a second capital only in name. Surely it was not in this spirit that the remarks of Lord Crewe in the House of Lords or of Lord Hardinge at Dacca were conceived and uttered. But India is passing through a period in which it has become the invariable custom of "giving the words of promise to the ear and of breaking them to the hope." The doctrine of Provincial autonomy is now rotting in the lumber room, and in its place the policy of Imperial interference is carried to the utmost point. If solemn pledges given in black and white in a State document can thus be trifled with, it is no wonder that words, spoken to soothe the offended spirit of a powerful antagonist in Parliament, have met with no better fate. Whatever may be the unknown justification of His Excellency's changed attitude, it must be said that it has not been strengthened by the arguments used in the speech. The complaint has been made that residence in Dacca does not bring one in close contact with Eastern Bengal in general. But this state of things is due to the indifference and neglect of the Government and not of the people. If the Government do not attach much importance to the place, it will be difficult to enlist any active interest from the people on its side. The task of founding a capital, first or second, rests primarily with the Government and not with the people. The recent instance must not be forgotten when the capital of British India has been established in a deserted charnel-house which, no doubt, will be replete with life again if not to the same extent as Calcutta. The Eastern Bengal Government never complained of Dacca, and visits were paid to the Lieutenant-Governor here and not at Shillong. The situation is altered if it is made a place of retreat and not of government.

882. The *Indian World* observes that Lord Carmichael has caused the profoundest disappointment to the people of Eastern Bengal by denying to Dacca the privileges of a second capital. His chain of arguments against the practicability of holding a Council session at Dacca has failed to carry conviction into the people's minds. The question is not whether Poona is nearer Bombay than is Dacca to Calcutta, but whether a member of the Council can do his business at both places on the same day. It is an open secret that many of these business men petitioned the Governor to hold a session of the Council at Darjeeling. It thus seems that His Excellency is more solicitous about their affairs than they themselves are. A capital is made or unmade by the Government, and there is no force in the observation that the people of Eastern Bengal flock to Calcutta more than they do to Dacca. The Government is going to break a solemn promise, but in this era of broken pledges one more does not perhaps count very much.

883. The *Herald* desires to heartily thank His Excellency Lord Carmichael and his Government for making the position clear about the Dacca visit. Even before the full text of the Governor's speech had reached Calcutta the journal's friends there had been

INDIAN MIRROR,
8th Aug. 1913.

HERALD,
3rd Aug. 1913.

INDIAN WORLD,
6th Aug. 1913.

HERALD,
5th Aug. 1913.

indulging in uttering all manner of kind things about East Bengal generally and Dacca in particular. In many cases, no doubt, the wish was the father to the thought, but the paper is very glad that all uncertainty has now been removed in the matter. Though the position has been defined in no uncertain terms, it considers it its duty to enumerate once more the claims of East Bengal on the attention of His Excellency Lord Carmichael and his Government. The journal is afraid in conflict against strong interests with their stronger advocates the case of East Bengal is apt sometimes to be overlooked, but hopes the people of our part of the province will now be wideawake to their particular requirements which can be pushed forward, keeping the fundamental unity of the whole presidency quite intact. In many respects the whole of East Bengal is quite distinct from West Bengal. There are many important questions peculiar to our part of the province which are not to be found in the other, or are to be seen presenting themselves in quite different forms. To solve these questions separate attention is required from the Government, and proper justice will not be done to East Bengal till that attention is given to its interests.

BENGALER,
31 Aug. 1913

884. The *Bengal* has been deluged with letters complaining of the ruin

which threatens the Malwar traders in opium by reason of the Anglo-Chinese Convention and its subsequent developments. What the traders complain of is that the market is closed against Malwar opium, although it is open to the opium produced in Bihar. There are large accumulations of opium which they cannot sell and which, unless they are able to sell, they are bound to be ruined. To add to their misfortunes, the Government of India have called for tenders for the purchase of opium, in which preference is given to new opium over the old produce, in direct contravention of the declaration of Government that it would not take the responsibility for any new product. The situation is grave so far as these traders are concerned, and having in the past contributed large sums of money to the Imperial coffers they are, the paper thinks, entitled to the sympathetic consideration of the Government.

885. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the Association has followed

up by another characteristic outburst of abnormal activity. In a letter to the Imperial Government it has now betrayed its great consternation at the recent policy of Government to reduce the number of highly-paid European Civil Surgeons in the mufassal. At the outset every reasonable man will support it when it objects to the stationing of Military Assistant Surgeons as Civil Surgeons in the mufassal. As a class these officers are, as every one knows, but glorified quacks, barring of course honourable exceptions here and there, or, as the Association itself has put it, "as a body they possess no registrable qualifications." But the Association takes leave of all common sense when it wants to level similar objections against the Indian Civil Surgeons as well. It admits their superior qualifications, but on a ground which will be apparent from the following extract quoted from its letter:—"It is a question of the intimate relations which must of necessity exist between a doctor and a patient and of the sacred right and privilege which every man and more especially every woman seeks to exercise of being professionally attended by a qualified practitioner of his or her own race, custom and ideas in life." Now in this connection it is to be borne in mind (a) that these Indian Civil Surgeons are thoroughly trained in the European methods of Therapeutics and Surgery; (b) that they number in all only 17 out of the total number of Civil Surgeons in India, thus constituting barely 7 per cent. of the entire body; (c) that there is no custom of zanana among the European ladies; if, however, the special considerations of privacy peculiar to womanhood are here referred to, then one fails to see what difference there is between a European Civil Surgeon and a Europeanly trained Indian Civil Surgeon—both being males. The paper fancies there is nothing particularly dangerous or abhorrent in a male Indian doctor unless, of course, it be the colour; (d) last, though not the least, the European element in most of the mufassal stations constitutes no more than 1 or 2 per cent. of the entire population, sometimes even less. If the Association is still anxious to have doctors of its own colour, let it have them by the dozen, but at its own cost. Let it open a fund for stationing a European doctor in every creek and corner

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA.
6th Aug. 1913.

The European Defence Association.

of the country where even a single blessed *sahib* or *memsahib* reigns. Why should the poor and overtaxed Indian tax-payer be made to bear the burden of a fatly paid doctor "of an alien race and custom" for the benefit of a microscopic minority?

886. The great Moslem demonstration at the Town Hall, observes the *Bengalee*, with its overflow meetings is a significant sign of the times, and no less significant are the status and antecedents of some of those who took part in it. This is the first time, the paper believes, that such a great Moslem meeting has been held at the Town Hall, a meeting so orderly, so temperate and firm in its "pronouncements" and so largely dominated by the rising educated sentiment of the community which is so rapidly bringing Hindus and Muhammadans together. There have been open-air meetings of the Moslem community, but never one of this importance and magnitude in the great Town Hall of Calcutta. The journal desires to offer its congratulations to the organizers and to its Muhammadan fellow-countrymen in general on the splendid success of their great demonstration. Among those prominently associated were men who never before had taken part in any public agitation. The Hon'ble Nawab Ali Chaudhuri was the President; and throughout his life he has been a Government man. It is no small credit to his public spirit and to his sense of responsiveness to the new-born forces, throbbing in the awakened life of the Muhammadan community in India, that he should have emerged from the seclusion of his quiet life to lead this great movement. The presence of such a man in the presidential chair of the Town Hall meeting was in itself the closing of the old and the opening of a new chapter in Moslem life in India. Those who have eyes to see and ears to hear will not fail to note this fact of tremendous significance. Calamities are often blessings in disguise. They too often tend to the rearrangement and the readjustment of social and moral forces which make for solidarity and progress. The heart of Islam to-day in India throbs with a common impulse; and the hearts of millions of Hindus go out in responsive sympathy. The Hon'ble Nawab Ali Chaudhuri's speech was in every way worthy of the occasion and faithfully reflected the prevailing Muhammadan sentiment. The President began with a personal explanation. He said that he was not an agitator and that he was not one of those who would rush into the arena of political agitation for the sake of notoriety. But he felt that the occasion was such that he must discharge his duty to the community to which he belonged and also to the Government "by interpreting to the authorities the true feelings of the Muhammadan community." "I hold it," said he, "that it is the duty of every loyalist to warn the Government in time and save it from unrealized and incalculable dangers." The Cawnpore mosque case was the first subject of consideration. Even now the official report of the unfortunate Cawnpore occurrence says that "the local Muhammadans were taunted by outside agitators." That is always the excuse of a bureaucratic administration when placed in a tight corner and confronted with an unexpected outburst of public feeling. It is always the work of the agitators. To this view, in relation to the Cawnpore mosque, the President gave a crushing reply. He said, referring to the outer building of the mosque which has been demolished:—

"The *Futwas* of the Ulemas leave no room for doubt that this portion is as sacred as any other part of the mosque. Even if it be accepted, for argument's sake, that the eastern *dahn* of the mosque was a place only utilized for purposes of ablution and not also for prayers, can any one who knows anything about our mosques believe that shoes were taken to a place where ablutions are made?"

The Lucknow meeting endorsed the same view. It appears that the Cawnpore affair does not stand alone and by itself; but that there is a soreness in the Muhammadan mind about proceedings connected with other mosques. The President said:—

"The Cawnpore sacrilege was preceded by an act of similar sacrilege at Delhi and followed by a similar lamentable affair at Agra and has created a universal apprehension that the authorities are growing indifferent to the religious susceptibilities of the Muhammadan community. Apprehensions like this create such grave dangers for Government that it is our bounden duty to bring them to its notice."

BENGALIAN.
6th Aug. 1913.

The paper is quite convinced that these things have only to be brought to the notice of the Government, and the Government will not be wanting in its duty. The Balkan question was next considered. The President voiced the disappointment felt by Hindus and Muhammadans alike at the tergiversations of European diplomacy—how it has changed with almost every breath of wind; and he appealed to the British Government to allow the conquerors of Adrianople to retain the spoils of victory. This is an appeal in which all sections of the Indian community and even the representatives of Anglo-Indian opinion will cordially join.

BENGALUR,
6th Aug. 1913.

887. The *Bengalee* writes that the decision of the Government of Bihar and

Domiciled Bengalis in Bihar.

Orissa confirming Mr. Sarees in preference to Babu Jyotish Chandra Bhattacharj, M.A., B.L., who was persuaded and pressed by the District Magistrate and the District Judge to accept the post of Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor of Purnea at a great self-sacrifice, its so inequitable and ungracious that the paper finds it difficult to express its views in measured terms. The personal aspect of the question is not to be overlooked. It has a serious bearing. It is humiliating to a gentleman of Jyotish Babu's position and eminence in the profession to be invited to accept the post and then to be told that he would not get it. The journal fears that the result of the decision of the Government may even prejudice Jyotish Babu professionally, as Purnea is not an advanced district and the people at large might invent any reasons for the Government's refusal to appoint him Government Pleader. "Has the Government at all reflected upon the effect which this decision will have on the prestige of the district authorities? The secret of the whole thing is that Jyotish Babu possesses a Bengali name, but all the same he is domiciled in Bihar."

INDIAN WORLD,
6th Aug. 1913.

888. The *Indian World* remarks that Lord Crewe has announced some

Lord Crewe and the India Council.

prospective changes in the constitution of the India Council and in its mode of transacting business. The number of members is to be limited to ten, and the practice of putting departments of business under committees of the Council is to be done away with. Henceforth each member will, as a rule, be attached to a department, and the Indian members will be retained and may also have charge of particular portfolios. The India Council performs the functions of a purely advisory body to the Secretary of State, except in certain matters, such as the appropriation of the revenues of India or property, entering into contracts, etc., where decisions of the majority are final. This power of the India Council makes its position a little anomalous, for it can set itself against a decision of the British Cabinet, of which the Secretary of State for India is a member, in cases where Imperial interests are involved, say in making war, by vetoing the expenditure. An instance of this kind has never occurred, but the possibility nevertheless exists. With the removal of this power the Council will be reduced to the position of a purely advisory body, and the necessity of its retention in its present or proposed shape may well be called in question. Besides, the India Council ought to be reclaimed from the position of a Pinjrapole—the refuge of worn-out pensioners who have neither the capacity nor the desire to work. A Council of India, constituted as it now is, is no help but a positive hindrance to an enlightened administration of business, and the sooner it is abolished the better for our country.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA
6th Aug. 1913.

889. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* writes that the direct result of the

Distress in Basirhat subdivision.

recent abnormal weather has been anything but pleasant, and doleful accounts of submerged crops and tumbling down houses are reaching the paper from every creek and corner of the province. No less untoward have been its indirect results. Take the case of the recent riot at Basirhat. There the flood-water was not satisfied with doing damage to inanimate property, but extended the mischief to human beings. The attempt to check the influx of the flood-water by means of an

embankment caused serious breach of the peace between two neighbours, with the result that one of them speared the other, who is said to have succumbed to the injuries. In this connection the paper would draw the attention of the district authorities to the pitiable condition of the villagers of the Basirhat subdivision as voiced by a correspondent. He complains that only lately both the District Judge and District Magistrate had been there on a tour of inspection which, however, was confined to the courts and offices. People had fondly expected that the latter, at least, would kindly enquire into the condition of the villagers in these unpropitious times, but therein they were grievously disappointed. The local self-governing bodies also do not care to do so, although appealed to off and on. Where, then, are the distressed villagers to go for relief? The houses of most of them have collapsed and even the village roads have become almost impassable. And yet they are seldom backward in performing their part of the duty, viz., payment of taxes, cesses, etc. Really the wails of these suffering villagers are loud enough to assail the ears of the powers that be, and the journal hopes the earnestly looked for response will soon be forthcoming.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

890. It is perhaps not known to the authorities that considerable mischief is being done by what the *Telegraph* describes as an unreasonable panic in respect of Government currency notes. An impression seems to have gone abroad that old and rather soiled notes are not accepted in the market, and not even in Government offices, such as the post office. The paper has heard it from very reliable sources that on several occasions currency notes either a little crumpled or soiled by oil could not be cashed at Barabazar and were returned even when presented at a post office. This deserves to be looked into both by the police and the executive. So far as the journal is aware, there can be no objection to accepting currency notes if they are not forged. On the other hand, the state of things revealed in the above not only impairs the prestige of the Government but actually affects business. The paper, therefore, invites the attention of the Commissioner of Police to it, and hopes that he will take such steps as will stop the evil.

TELEGRAPH,
2nd Aug. 1913.

891. The *Bengalee* observes that whenever there is any important speech delivered in England, Reuter sniffs, nose to the ground, for sentiments opposed to Indian aspirations and wires them with an evident sense of triumph, but gives a wide berth to views that ought to be disseminated in the true interests of the people. The Aga Khan's speech at the meeting of the All-India Moslem League has been reported by Reuter and commented on by the Indian Press. But it was a truncated message, devoid of the very life substance from the Indian point of view, with which the press out here was served. The Aga Khan put special emphasis on the necessity of a Hindu-Muhammadan *entente* and suggested, like the Amir, the voluntary abandonment by Moslems of the public slaughter of cows for sacrifice. The desire for *rapprochement* between Hindus and Muhammadans is one of the signs of the times, and the Aga Khan's seasonable contribution to the forces of cohesion will not fail of its effects. It is an eminently practical advice that he has given to his Hindu and Muhammadan fellow-countrymen to avert the *Bakr Id* disturbances by the substitution of other animals for cows. The Marwari community already spend a good deal by way of compensating the butchers for the cows they buy for slaughter. They may accept the Aga Khan's idea and work for the consummation wished for. Equally important is the Aga Khan's pronouncement about the goal of Indian aspirations, for which Hindus and Muhammadans should work together. It is self-government under the Empire. What has the *Englishman* got to say to this?

BENGALUR,
3rd Aug. 1913.

892. The *Bengalee* thinks Mr. Gokhale's inaugural address at the Indian Association in London seems to have been overshadowed by a sense of uneasiness as to the future of the Indian student in England. According to him, the position of Indian

BENGALUR,
5th Aug. 1913.

students in England is steadily growing more and more difficult. The contributory causes of the difficulty lie deep in the racial and colour prejudice consequent on the present-day party Imperialism of England and the influence of retired Anglo-Indian officials. The Empire sentiment of the day is a curious compound of race and colour ascendancy and its implied correlative of grateful obligation on the part of the inferior members of the Empire. No wonder this arrogant sort of Imperialism arrays itself against equal opportunities being given for self-improvement to all the different parts of the Empire, irrespective of their present political status. Thus the Empire sentiment, instead of proving a solvent of pride and prejudice is, on the contrary, strengthening those harmful impulses. And the majority of Anglo-Indian officials from India, with all their heritage of bureaucratic temperament, are infecting the English atmosphere of freedom and equality with the ideas they carry from the scene of their past work. This was a danger which loomed large across the minds of some eminent English statesmen, including Edmund Burke, and what was no bigger than a man's hand now threatens to overspread the whole firmament. The kangaroo closure and other methods of restricting freedom of discussion which were so much in evidence during the Home Rule controversy in the House of Commons, and of which the Unionists so loudly complained as an un-British attitude towards free speech, evidently represent the rebound of the autocracy of Calcutta or Simla on Westminster. Nature cannot be shoved into a corner, and what the Britishers are sowing in India they must, we fear, to a certain extent, reap in England. Be that as it may, the menace to the education of our youths, which seems to have travelled even beyond the seas and pursued our students in the United Kingdom, is ominous in the extreme. The paper is quite at one with Mr. Gokhale that India should not be so much behindhand in educational facilities as to necessitate the draft of shiploads of young men to England with her growing symptoms of Imperial exclusiveness, for all higher forms of specialised education. But still the inspiration of one of the mightiest centres of modern civilization must always remain open to those who may desire to profit by it. In England the education of a young man was hardly thought complete unless it was supplemented by travel over the Continent. And it is very much to be regretted that a bar sinister should be placed in the way of the fulfilment of the aspirations of those Indian youths who may be actuated by similar ideals of educational perfection. Verily Imperialism is proving the bane of the moral greatness of England, for the country which once afforded an asylum to the aspirants after liberty from the remotest corners of the globe is steadily closing the doors of higher knowledge against the people of the country which owes allegiance with her to the same Sovereign. The pessimistic utterances of such a sober and optimistic politician as Mr. Gokhale open the flood-gates of uncomfortable reflections so far as the educational future of the country is concerned. Is then knowledge to be the forbidden tree to the Indian student everywhere?

AMRITA BASAR
PATRIKA.
8th Aug. 1913.

893. Mr. Gokhale is not a moment too soon, writes the *Amrita Basar Patrika*, in pointing out the dangers which beset the path of the Indian student in England. These

are due, in his opinion, to three causes—(a) the growth of Imperialistic sentiments; (b) the influence of retired Anglo-Indian officials saturated, he might have added, with Indian salt; and (c) the steadily increasing number of the Indian students. Each of these factors contribute, in Mr. Gokhale's opinion, to the increase in racial and colour prejudice. The *Indian Daily News* hints at another, viz., the suspicious eye with which the Indian students generally are looked upon since the unfortunate Dhingra incident. Whatever the real reasons may be, it would be idle to contend that Mr. Gokhale was conjuring up an imaginary evil or exaggerating an insignificant one. In that view the report of the Morison Committee which sought to clear his countrymen of any taint of colour prejudice or racial feeling can be construed as no better than an ostrich-like hiding the head under the sand.

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